FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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EAST ASIA

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ROK PROPOSAL FOR DIALOGUE WITH DPRK WELCOMED

OW030401 Tokyo KYODO in English 0343 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 3 KYODO -- Japan Monday welcomed a South Korean proposal to North Korea to hold a foreign ministerial meeting in New York, the Foreign Ministry said.

"Japan rates highly and welcomes the proposal as it shows South Korea's positive and constructive posture toward easing tension on the Korean peninsula," ministry officials said.

The officials said "the (Japanese) Government believes it is important for both Koreas to hold talks for the peaceful settlement on the problems concerning the Korean peninsula."

The ministry said it hoped that substantial talks between the two Koreas will be resumed.

The North-South dialogue on Red Cross, economic and other matters has been stalled since January last year due to North Korea's protest against South Korea's joint military drills. Both Koreas have proposed resumption of dialogue since late last year.

ANTINUCLEAR WEAPONS CONFERENCE OPENS IN TOKYO

OW311137 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Tokyo, July 31 KYODO -- A three-day world conference against atomic and hydrogen bombs starts in Tokyo Saturday.

Supported by the Japan Communist Party, the meeting will be attended by about 200 participants including representatives from overseas peace groups, including those in the United States, China, the Soviet Union, Australia, India and Nepal. Over 150 Japanese peace activists, as well as scientists and nuclear experts, will also participate.

Tomoyasu Kawai, secretary of an association of Japanese scientists, said the conference will discuss the arms race and the horrors of nuclear war.

Representatives of radiation victims of Bikini Atoll and Mururoa Atoll will speak about suffering caused by radioactive fallout from nuclear tests by France and the United States.

The conference will move to Hiroshima and Nagasaki next week during the anniversaries of the A-bomb attacks on the two cities in 1945.

POLICE UNCOVER TERRORIST PLOT AGAINST ROYAL FAMILY

OW311313 Tokyo KYODO in English 1259 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Tokyo, July 31 KYODO -- The Public Security Division of the Metropolitan Police Department discovered Friday that an ultraleftist group in Tokyo's Nerima Ward was planning to manufacture remote-controlled airship bombs to be exploded at the time of Emperor Hirohito's visit to Okinawa this autumn.

Police detected the ultraleftist group's plan to manufacture sophisticated weapons from documents and other items seized recently from a hideout of the group, Kakurokyo (the Revolutionary Workers' Association), in Nerima Ward.

Among the documents and items seized were a detailed map showing the layout of the Togu Palace where Crown Prince Akihito and his family live and that of the streets of Naha, the capital of Okinawa, police revealed.

Judging from these maps, police concluded that the principal target of the weapons the group was planning to manufacture was the imperial family.

Learning that the group was developing aerial attack weapons, besides the propeller-driven flying bombs and time-bombs, police have tightened their surveillance and precautions for the emperor's visit.

According to a "manual" written on 12 sheets of paper, the airships are of three sizes. The largest measures 7 meters in length and 5 meters in diameter, the police said. One airship is divided into three sections, they added.

Each airship is designed to carry propellants, a remote-controlled engine, and a time-mechanism to drop bombs and explosives, police said.

Among the items seized were two finished timers using semiconductor chips and nine unfinished timers which are believed capable of being set 159 days ahead.

The Revolutionary Workers' Association is believed responsible for 109 guerrilla attacks so far, and is known for innovative attacking methods.

KIICHI MIYAZAWA JOINS RACE FOR LDP LEADERSHIP

OW011109 Tokyo KYODO in English 1045 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Sapporo, Aug. 1 KYODO — Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa joined other contenders Saturday by announcing his decision to run for the presidency of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party. Speaking at a meeting of his supporters, Miyazawa said he has an obligation to respond to their expectations while doing his best to perform his duties as finance minister.

His remark was interpreted as an expression of his determination to run for the post now held by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, who is also LDP president.

In a news conference afterward, Miyazawa repeated his main goal of doubling the net assets of the people which includes a more comfortable and affluent lifestyle and the reactivation of regional economies.

Miyazawa called for the consolidation and expansion of a sewer system, construction of more retirement homes and greater care for the aged. To accomplish these goals, he said, it would be better for the nation's economy to grow four to five percent annually.

Miyazawa joined three other contenders to succeed Nakasone, whose extended term is due to expire on Oct. 31. The three other contenders are LDP Secretary-General Noboru Takeshita, Shintaro Abe, chairman of the party's Executive Council, and Susumu Nikaido, former deputy president of the LDP.

MESSAGE, EVENTS MARK 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CPLA

O Chin-u Sends Message

SK311039 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Pyongyang July 31 (KCNA) -- Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army O Chin-u, minister of Peoples Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to Zhang Aiping, state councillor and minister of national defence of the People's Republic of China, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army [CPLA].

The message said that the Chinese People's Liberation Army has performed imperishable feats in the victory of the people's revolution in China, the birth of socialist new China and its strengthening and development.

Today, it further noted, the CPLA is waging a powerful struggle to firmly guarantee with armed forces the devoted endeavors of the people to turn their country into a highly civilized and democratic, socialist power, and reunify the whole country by having Taiwan returned to the homeland.

It expressed the belief that the traditional relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation between the peoples and armies of Korea and China will grow stronger and develop in the common struggle for the victory of the cause of socialism and communism.

NODONG SINMUN Carries Article

SK011037 Pyongyang August 1 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today carries an editorial article titled "Proud Six Decades" marking the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

The article says:

With the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army the Chinese people came to have their genuine revolutionary armed forces for the first time in their history and the Chinese revolution greeted a new turning period.

Reviewing the path covered by the CPLA, the article stresses that the victorious advance of the Chinese revolution and all the achievements of the Chinese people are associated with the proud feats of the CPLA.

The article goes on.

Since the People's Republic of China was founded the CPLA has firmly defended new socialist China and performed great feats of labour in socialist construction.

The CPLA enjoys the trust and love of the people.

The might of the CPLA is growing stronger day by day under the policy of the Communist Party of China on modernising the defence forces of the country.

Today the CPLA has grown to be modern armed forces powerful enough to firmly defend the gains of the revolution and contributes to the socialist construction of the Chinese people.

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the CPLA founding the Korean people and People's Army soldiers extend warm congratulations and greetings to the fraternal Chinese people and soldiers of the People's Liberation Army and sincerely wish them greater success in their future work.

PRC Attache Hosts Party

SK010517 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0506 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Pyongyang August 1 (KCNA) -- Wang Daehui, military attache of the Chinese Embassy here, arranged a film show and cocktail party at his embassy on July 31 on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

Present there on invitation were O Kuk-yol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chief of the general staff of the Korean People's Army; Kim Kwang-chin, Cho Myong-nok, Kim il-chol, Kim Chae-pong, Kim Chae-suk and other personages concerned.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and military attaches were also invited.

Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zong Kewen was present.

The attendants appreciated a Chinese film.

It was followed by a cocktail party.

Wang Daehui and O Kuk-yol made speeches there.

EARLY REPLY TO NEW IOC OFFER UNDER CONSIDERATION

OW020941 Tokyo KYODO in English 0908 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] Pyongyang, Aug. 2 KYODO -- North Korea is considering an early reply to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on the latter's new proposal last month regarding the 1988 Seoul Olympics, a top Japanese sports official visiting here said Sunday.

According to Ichiro Ogimura, president of the International Table Tennis Federation, Kim Tok-chun, vice president of the (North) Korean Sports Guidance Committee, told Ogimura in their talks Saturday Pyongyang is now giving serious thought to the proposal as there is little time left (until the September 17 deadline).

Kim criticized, however, the way the IOC-mediated sports talks were held, saying the parties concerned should have spent more time on tete-a-tete discussions, said Ogimura, who came here to attend the Pyongyang international invitational table tennis championships.

The IOC proposal in the fourth sports negotiations held in Lausanne, Switzerland July 14 and 15 added the entire women's volleyball tournament and the men's cycling road race in North Korea to archery, table tennis and a quarter of the preliminary soccer matches already proposed in the third sports talks last year.

Both Koreas are supposed to give their replies to the IOC before the end of this month.

Based on their replies, another tripartite negotiations will probably be held early September, Olympic sources said.

The IOC will send its official invitations to each national Olympic committee (NOC) September 17.

KIM YONG-NAM MEETS SYRIA'S KHADDAM; DISCUSS OLYMPICS

SKO21356 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and foreign minister, who is now staying in Syria, on 28 July met with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, vice president of Syria.

During his meeting with Kim Yong-nam, the vice president said that the Syrian people always support the Korean people's just struggle designed to oppose imperialism and their stooges. He also stated that Syria will not participate in the 24th Olympic games and other games to be held in Seoul.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Prior to this, on 27 July, the entourage was invited to a banquet arranged by the Syrian foreign minister.

On 29 July, the entourage visited Al Qunaytirah. They laid wreaths at the tombs of patriots who have been sacrificed during battles against the Israeli aggressors, planted memorial trees, and toured some parts of Al Qunaytirah.

On 30 July the entourage inspected historic sites in the (?capital).

SOUTH'S USE OF 'ROCKETS FROM TURKEY' CRITICIZED

SK310549 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0539 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Pyongyang July 31 (KCNA) -- The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland issued its information No 403 Thursday, denouncing the South Korean fascist clique for introducing rockets from Turkey to intensify arms buildup and war manoeuvres.

Recalling that the South Korean puppets introduced 5,000 rockers on July 24 and plan to import 25,000 rockets in all this year in accordance with their contract with a machine-building and chemical industrial company of Turkey, the information says:

This is one more intolerable challenge to the desire of the whole nation to remove the danger of a nuclear war from the Korean peninsula, relax the tension and achieve the peace and peaceful reunification of the country and an anti-national crime of rendering the situation of the country more strained.

The South Korean puppets are introducing fratricidal means from other country in defiance of our proposal for negotiation particularly at a time when the DPRK Government made a new initiative for the phased reduction of the Korean People's Army and South Korean puppet Armed Forces and the sequent withdrawal of the U.S. troops occupying South Korea. This shows to the world that Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group are odious henchmen keen on the execution of the U.S. imperialists' war policy and warmaniacs who harass peace and aggravate the tension on the Korean peninsula.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group should immediately give up their arms buildup and war manoeuvres which will inflict irretrievable disasters upon the country and the nation, and step down from "power" without delay.

COMMENTARY ON SOUTH DEFENSE MINISTER'S REMARKS

SKO20337 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2153 GMT 30 Jul 87

[NODONG SIMMUN 31 July commentary: "The Bellicose Element's Hackneyed Propaganda of Intrigue"]

[Text] While inspecting army headquarters a few days ago, the puppet defense minister again spat out the stereotypical theory of southward invasion. The puppet maliciously abused us, clamoring that we have sought the opportunity for attack whenever major incidents have occurred in South Korea. Also, he indiscriminately made absurd powder-reeking remarks about annihilation and perfecting preparedness. This is an intolerable slander of, and challenge to we who have made every sincere effort to ease tension and provide a favorable phase for peace and peaceful reunification.

As acknowledged by the world, there has never been, and there can never be, southward invasion -- inconceivable -- in our country. Not just once or twice have we clarified that we have no intention of southward invasion. Furthermore, we have substantiated this through sincere peace-loving efforts. In recent days alone, we have put forward a multinational proposal for disarmament to ease tension and facilitate peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula and have made the important decision to unilaterally reduce our armed forces by 100,000 by the year-end.

The puppet defense minister stated that we had sought a favorable opportunity to attack South Korea. This being the case, now, when the fascist ruling system has been battered by waves of anti-U.S. and antifascist resistance by the South Korean people, can it be said to be a matchlessly favorable opportunity for southward invasion. In reality, however, we have advanced a new proposal for disarmament negotiations to ease tension.

Some time ago, in a foreign news agency interview, a South Korean opposition party figure revealed that the theory of a threat by the North, about which the incumbent rulers rave, is a lie to justify dictatorial politics.

As for a military threat existing on the Korean peninsula, there is only the threat of northward invasion by the South, where approximately 1,000 nuclear weapons of the U.S. imperialists are massed and provocative war exercises are incessantly conducted. It is obvious to everyone that the adventurous acts of the puppets, who have accelerated the militarization of the economy; drastically augmented the puppet armed forces; received numerous pieces of military hardware of various kinds, including F-16 fighter-bombers, from the U.S. imperialist masters; and deployed them for actual warfare, are aimed at criminal northward invasion.

The theory of a threat of southward invasion, about which the puppets babble, is a theory to hide their warmaniac nature and justify their maneuvers for a war of northward invasion and a slogan for northward invasion.

At present, the South Korean people are increasingly voicing protest against the puppets' treacherous act of seeking to prolong the fascist dictatorship under the plausible pretext of democratization, and their resentment and grievances against the fascist ruling bunch which brought about tremendous natural disasters due to their antipopular tyrannical rule are reaching an extreme. Describing these public sentiments in South Korea as a time bomb a the point of explosion, foreign news agencies have predicted that they would explode as another June popular resistance.

The puppets are misleading public opinion by talking about the nonexistent threat of southward invasion to redirect the antigovernment sentiments of the people elsewhere, thus seeking to realize their wild ambition for reassuming power. Also, they are trying to find a way for survival, even by resorting to military adventurism in case the situation does not evolve according to their will. We are alertly watching the reckless actions of the puppets. The South Korean people will never tolerate the Chon Tu-hwan ring's criminal maneuvers of seeking to prolong the fascist dictatorship under the deceptive pretext of a threat of southward invasion.

FORMER SOUTH KOREANS LIST NO TAE-U'S 'CRIMES'

SKO20915 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0838 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] Pyongyang August 2 (KCNA) -- The consultative council of former South Korean politicians in the North for the promotion of peaceful reunification on August 1 published a record of crimes of the traitor No Tae-u, a pro-U.S. stooge.

The consultative council is an organisation consisting of personages who had been in South Korean political circles including the puppet National Assembly and came to the northern half of the republic in the period of the past fatherland liberation war. Now it is conducting activities for the peaceful reunification of the country.

The record of crimes says: The traitor No Tae-u was born as the eldest son of No Pyongsu, pro-Japanese stooge and traitor to the nation, in Talsong County (Taegu city at present), North Kyongsang Province, on December 4, 1932. He grew up, cultivating from his childhood the qualities of a traitor bartering away fellow countrymen and kowtowing to foreign forces and the trait of a scoundrel who stoops to infamy for money and wealth.

The traitor No Tae-u imbued with a U.S.-worshipping flunkeyist idea, after wearing the puppet army uniform, became an "important member" of the gendarme, entered the puppet military academy as the 11th term cadet in 1951. To win the favour of the U.S. master he addressed himself to man-killing training and worked as a special agent, informing against his colleagues to (Macran) who was a teacher of the academy and an official of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and won his trust. In this course he became intimated particularly with Chon Tu-hwan who was a secret agent of the U.S. forces and classmate.

The U.S. imperialists thought that No Tae-u would be a useful stooge and sent him together with Chon Tu-hwan to the "nited States in 1959 to receive education in psychological warfare at a special war school and absorbed them as spies.

Siding with the May 16 military coup of Pak Chong-hui on the order of the U.S. imperialists, No Tae-u took the post of intelligence officer of the counter-intelligence corps of the puppet army. He watched the actions of the oppositons in the army and worked with a greater zeal to purge them.

He became the chief of the intelligence section of the counter-intelligence corps of the puppet ground force in 1966 and went to Vietnam as a battalion commander of the "Maengho unit" of the puppet Army at the time of the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression there and won ill fame as a murderer, participating in genocide operations against the Vietnamese people over 100 times.

The record says that when the traitor Chon Tu-hwan, acting on the script written by the U.S. imperialists, formed the "main forces" mainly with 11th term graduates of the military academy and staged the "December 12 Army purge coup" to liquidate anti-"Yusin" forces in the army, the traitor No Tae-u played a "decisive role."

The traitor No Tae-u is the ringleader of fascism who under the patronage of the U.S. master challenges with bayonets the demand of the popular masses for democracy and nation butcher and heinous strangler of democracy who does not hesitate to plunge fellow countrymen into a horrible sea of blood.

The crimes of No Tae-u in stamping out democracy and seeking a military fascist dictatorship have been committed more insidiously on a political basis since he became the "representative member of the Democratic Justice Party".

After seizing the party power and directing even "party-administration consultative meeting" with the puppet government as the "representative member of the DJP", No Tae-u trumped up all sorts of evil laws to bind the South Korean students and people more tightly with the noose of fascism and very craftily and brutally schemed to suppress and obliterate the people's struggle for democratisation.

Although No Tae-u tries to veil his criminal color, talking about the "release of detainees", "amnesty and restoration of civic rights", he cannot cover up his color as the strangler of democracy and lunatic seeking fascist dictatorship.

The record brands the traitor No Tae-u as the enemy of the nation and peaceful reunification of the country who is zealously following the U.S. Korean strategy and frantically stepping up the moves for permanent split of the nation and belligerent manoeuvres. It continues:

What must be pointed to first of all in the crimes of No Tae-u going against the peaceful reunification of the country is that he has committed more viciously than anybody the criminal acts of aggression against the northern half of the republic, zealously following the new war provocation manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists.

For nearly one year from 1979 to 1980 when he was the commander of the 9th Division of the puppet army, special operations and military provocations against the area of our side were committed almost every day more brutally in the southern portion along the lower reaches of the River Imjin than in any other area.

After changing his military uniform to civilian cloth to proceed to political circles No Tae-u, a bigoted warlike and splittist, got overheated in the criminal moves to perpetuate the division of the nation, keeping pace with the U.S. imperialists' "two Koreas" plot.

No Tae-u who had once strutted around in a "general" uniform stained with the blood of fellow countrymen willingly accepted the post of "sports minister" which can be considered a sort of relegation. His intention is to render distinguished service to the United States once again by "successfully holding" the '88 Olympics, an immediate pressing problem in realizing the U.S. plot for the creation of "two Koreas."

That No Tae-u is the enemy of peaceful reunification is to be seen in the fact that the "Democratic Justice Party" led by him is suppressing even the opposition party's assertion for reunification by "government" power, lending a deaf ear to the voices of the entire Korean people calling for national unity and reunification and more vociferously clamouring about the "anti-communist state policy".

All facts clearly show that the traitor No Tae-u is a pro-U.S. military hooligan and fascist murderer and the enemy of peace in the country and its peaceful reunification just like Chon Tu-hwan, the record notes, and stresses that they will be unable to escape a stern judgement of history.

LEADERS ATTEND MEMORIAL MEETING FOR KANG PAN-SOK

SK030016 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Excerpts] A Pyongyang memorial meeting on the 55th anniversary of the death of Madame [yosa] Kang Pan-sok, an indomitable revolutionary fighter and an outstanding leader of the communist women's movement in our country, was held at the People's Palace of Culture yesterday afternoon. [passage omitted]

Present at the meeting were Comrades Yi Kun-mo, Ho Tam, Kye Ung-tae, Kang Hui-won, Hwang Chang-yop, Ho Chong-suk, Choe Tae-pok, and Kim Chang-chu; responsible functionaries of party, power, administrative, and economic institutions and of social organizations; KPA generals, anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters; bereaved families of fallen revolutionaries; responsible functionaries of scientific, educational, cultural, art, public health, publication, and press sectors; heroes; workers in the city; and People's Army soldiers. Members of various Chongnyon delegations staying in the socialist fatherland were also present at the meeting. [passage omitted]

MINISTRY STATEMENT PROPOSES MINISTERIAL TALKS

SK030234 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0000 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Text] On the morning of 3 August, the government [of South Korea] proposed to the North the promotion of the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula.

Reporter Nam Song-ok is now in the general government building:

[Begin recording] [Nam] I am now in the conference hall of the Foreign Ministry in the general government building.

Pak Su-kil, assistant foreign minister, is now reading a statement proposing North-South foreign ministerial talks.

[Pak] We believe that discussing and settling the Korean issue through talks between North and South Korean parties directly concerned according to the principle of national self-determination is the right approach and reflects the desire of the Korean people. The issue of peace and unification is basically our own problem and it is our people who should be, as a matter of course, in charge of this issue.

Accordingly, if the North Korean side is truly interested in improving relations and relaxing North-South tension, we believe that the North Korean side should first show sincerity in confidence building, as a foundation. To date, we have had Red Cross talks, economic talks, and preliminary contacts for North-South parliamentary talks to reduce tensions and build confidence between the North and South. In the autumn of 1985, we also had a touching tearful moment over the reunion of separated families when they exchanged hometown visits for the first time in 40 years since the division of the national territory.

What is more, from among these talks, the North-South Red Cooss talks and the North-South economic talks had already reached a stage where concrete projects could be implemented if the two sides make a just a few more concessions and cooperate. However, the North Korean side unilaterally suspended all channels of dialogue in January 1986 under the pretext of the "Team Spirit" exercise and put forward the so-called tripartite military authorities talks and again proposed holding arms reduction negotiations in Geneva among the three parties, including the United States. This runs counter to the principle of self-determination, which calls for the settlement of the problems by the parties directly concerned — South and North Korea.

I reemphasize that the most practical approach to solving pending problems between South and North Korea lies in strengthening the foundation for mutual trust by convening water resources talks at an early date while resuming and sincerely developing the North-South Red Cross talks and the North-South economic talks the North Korean side unilaterally suspended.

Also, it is believed that in regard to discussing North-South disarmament, effectiveness can only be guaranteed when systematic safety devices — such as the entry of North and South Korea into the United Nations and cross-recognition by the surrounding four powers — are provided and the restoration of trust and the consolidation of peace are achieved by realizing exchange and cooperation between the North and South. In particular in connection with disarmament, it is important to seek systematic safety devices to preserve peace and prevent military clashes, as well meeting the reality facing the Korean peninsula.

From this standpoint, we propose holding talks between the foreign ministers of the North and South to discuss the signing of an agreement on nonaggression between North and South Korea, the question of entry into the United Nations, and the question of cross-recognition. At the talks, all matters of concern to both sides — such as resuming and developing the existing dialogue, discussing and solving the problem of water resources, and other confidence-building questions; all issues, including disarmament, concerning easing tension and settling peace on the Korean peninsula; and eventually realizing the holding of talks between highest responsible persons in authority in the North and South Korea by holding North-South prime ministerial-level talks — can be discussed.

It can be desirable for the foreign ministers of North and South Korea to hold their talks in New York between the time shortly after the convocation of the UN General Assembly session and the end of September by availing themselves of the opportunity to participate in the UN General Assembly session this year or to hold the talks at any other mutually agreeable place during the same period of time.

We expect the North Korean side to correctly understand our genuine hope of restoring trust and improving relations between the North and South and affirmatively respond to it. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE RETURN OF SAKHALIN KOREANS

SK010132 Seoul YONHAP in English 0118 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 1 (YONHAP) -- The South Korean Government plans to take a number of steps to promote visits home to Korea by Koreans living the the Soviet-occupied Sakhalin Island and for their repatriation.

The government will support the activities of Japan's Diet and private organizations to repatriate those Koreans who had been sent to the island off the east Siberian coast by imperial Japan during Japan's 36-year colonial rule of Korea which ended in August 1945.

Japanese authorities sent about 43,000 Koreans to Sakhalin to work in coal mines there before Soviet troops occupied the island at the end of World War II in 1945.

Government sources said Saturday that the government will positively support the efforts of the International Red Cross and a Japanese parliamentary organization on the issue of Koreans in Sakhalin in the Japanese Diet.

A suprapartisan panel on the question of Koreans in Sakhalin was formed in the Japanese Diet last month, according to the sources.

The Korean Government's basic position for designating the Japanese Government as the official channel for negotiations with Moscow has not changed, they said.

South Korea has no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, a staunch ally of North. Korea.

In the annual Korea-Japan ministerial conference, to be held later this year, the Korean Government plans to point out that the primary responsibility for the problem of Koreans on Sakhalin lies with the Japanese Government and to urge the Tokyo government to expedite negotiations with Moscow.

The matter of repatriating Koreans on Sakhalin Island to South Korea has been stalemated because of Moscow's refusal to negotiate.

In past meetings with Japan, the Soviet Union maintained that the issue is not a matter for negotiation with Japan but rather require discussion with North Korea.

A Korean Foreign Ministry official said that the Japanese Government bears moral and political responsibility for the issue and the Korean Government will urge Japan to negotiate with the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union, however, is refusing negotiations at present. The Korean Government will also endeavor to support private organizations' efforts in order to create an atmosphere conducive to drawing the Soviet Union to the negotiating table, he said.

REPORT ON RESPONSE TO U.S. PROTECTIONISM ISSUED

SK010020 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Aug 87 p 6

[Text] Korea's market-liberalization efforts are not properly appreciated by government and business in the U.S., the Korea Institute for Economics and Technology (KIET) said yesterday.

In a report titled "Policy Response to the U.S. Protectionism," the government-funded economic think-tank said that previous Korean efforts for import liberalization always received the cool U.S. response that though appropriate in direction, they were not sufficiently rapid or far reaching.

In short, the report said, though Korea's market-opening has been accelerated by the U.S. requests, it has been neither sufficient nor has it been effectively implemented as a means to reduce the pressure of protectionism in the United States.

It is an easy guess that even if all U.S. requests for new market access for U.S. exports were accommodated, that would not by itself resolve the U.S. trade deficit, the report said.

Therefore, it went on, the idea should be dismissed that Korean import liberalization could be bought by the U.S. as a way to ameliorate the protectionistic sentiments in the U.S., the reasons for the U.S. trade deficit lie not in the restricted market access of the Korean market but in other factors which do not appear likely to go away in the near future.

In any case, Koreans are struck by the phenomenon that more active import liberalization apparently draws greater pressure for market in the United States, the report said.

The other most frequent complaint about the Korean effort for import liberalization has been that the Korean government was not sincere about it in the first place, the so-called liberalized imports are not liberalized in reality.

The allegations say that, being forced to liberalize, the Korean government has installed various other trade barriers which are to take the places of old restructions, and this is backed by the evidence of various special laws and rules of public hygine, safety and national security, the report said.

First, Korea has been dismantling, not erecting, special laws and regulations out of its own recognition that import liberalization may not yield the expected effects if constrained by these laws.

Second, the 167 commodities whose imports were liberalized in 1982 grew by 53.2 percent in the following year 1983, those 305 imports liberalized in 1983 grew by 34.8 percent in 1984, and those 326 imports liberalized in 1984 grew by 11.2 percent in 1985, all outpacing the total imports in growth.

Furthermore, it noted that the 31 commodities whose imports were liberalized as effective from January 1984 in order to accommodate specifically the U.S. request were mostly supplied by the Japanese exports; the Japanese share in the import of these newly liberalized commodities was 44 percent while the U.S. share as only 16 percent.

LABOR UNREST CONTINUES THROUGHOUT NATION

Hyundai Makes Concessions

SK310922 Seoul YONHAP in English 0913 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Ulsan, South Korea, July 31 (YONHAP) -- Labor disputes at Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. ended Friday afternoon after management conceded to 13 labor demands, including three days of paid vacation, a spokesman for the company said. A meeting between labor and management, comprising 15 representatives from each side, also agreed to set up a labor union through a democratic vote of more than 24,000 workers before September 1, the spokesman said.

The new labor union will open negotiations with the management for raising wages.

Leaders, who initiated work stoppage and helped to organize the subsequent sit-in protests, will not be punished for their roles in the five-day labor dispute, according to the spokesman.

Improvement of working environment and food quality of the company restaurant, the resignation of current labor union leaders and assistance for industrial disaster victims were also among the 13 demands of the workers, which were accepted by management.

The clash between management and labor at the largest shipbuilding company in Korea started Monday in this southeastern port city, some 300 kilometers southeast of Seoul.

Ministry 'Put on Alert'

SK010121 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] The Ministry of Trade and Industry was put on alert recently for fear of a possible fiasco in the nation's export drive, affected by ongoing severe labor-management disputes in the major industrial estates.

Ministry officials said yesterday that the nation's exports will be hard hit if the friction between employers and employees continues.

The nation's major industrial complexes in Ulsan and Pusan have been drawn into the whirlwind of severe labor-management dispute since a "June 29 Democratization Program," unveiled by the ruling Democratic Justice Party.

Many laborers in those areas have been staging sit-in, demanding three basic labor rights -- the freedom to associate, to organize and to engage in collective actions.

They also have called on their employers to raise salaries by a large margin.

Factories of Tongyang Nylon Co, and Taekwang Industrial Co., for example, are in the vortex of a serious labor-management dispute, which has brought factory operations to an entire halt.

Minister of Trade and Industry Na Ung-pae called an emergency meeting yesterday to cope with the impasse.

If the current situation worsens, the nation's economy is feared to take a disastrous course, trade officials said.

An official of Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. said that its factory operations have been stopped entirely for four days, inflicting a daily 4-billion won loss on the company.

"We failed to meet the scheduled delivery of many ships and lost the corporate credit to ship owners," he complained.

Unrest in Ulsan, Pusan, Kwangju

SIO10028 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Aug 87 p 3

[Text] A growing number of industrial plants have been crippled by collective actions by workers demanding "drastic" improvements in working conditions and wages.

About 10 industrial plants recently suspended operations or voluntarily closed as employers were unable to meet employees demands.

Riding on the recent democratic reform mood, labor disputes have sprouted in many workplaces. Many employees see collective actions as a way of forcing employers to meet their demands, a Labor Ministry official said yesterday.

In Ulsan alone, six companies are now entangled in labor disputes that severely impede normal operations. The south-eastern port city of Ulsan is one of [the] major industrial cities in the country.

The six plants include Hyundai Heavy Industries, Hyundai Motor, Hyundai Mipo Dockyard and Taekwang Industrial.

Hyundai Heavy Industries and Hyundai Mipo Dockyard have suspended operations for three or four days as many workers staged protests demanding the improvement of working conditions.

The two companies and Hyundai Motor are under the umbrella of the nation's largest business group.

The Hundai Heavy Industries Co., however, is expected to resume normal operations today as the dispute was settled through a labor-management agreement late yesterday.

Employees opf Taekwang have been on strike for four days as labor and management have failed to reach a compromise over employees' demand for working condition improvement.

In Pusan, Kukje-ICC temporarily stopped operations Wednesday because of labor disputes. The workers ended their protest rally late yesterday evening, but it is not known immediately when the company will reopen.

Korea Shipbuilding and Engineering Co. in the part city also decided to temporarily close Wednesday, but the company is expected to return to normal operations today thanks to an agreement reached yesterday between labor and management.

labor disputes in Kukje-ICC even developed into a violent clash between blue and white collar employees as they traded rocks and firebombs Thursday.

Ilsung Textile Co. in Kwangju Thursday closed voluntarily as it was unable to comply with demands made by its employees.

The employees were demanding a 50 percent rise in wages and an annual bonus equal to 3 months wages.

Employees in some workplaces have been accused of listing too many demands for improved working conditions and wages.

In the case of Tongyang Nylon Co., its employees filed a 23-point demand including a wage hike and increase of allowances.

Labor experts worry that many employees resort to collective actions rather than dialogue in thorny labor disputes.

They say the industrial workers' excessive demands and collective action could drive both labor and management into a mire as they are likely to bring about suspensions or closures.

Labor Minister Yi Hon-ki warned yesterday that his ministry will get tough on illegal collective actions by industrial workers.

Yi said, however, his ministry will refrain from interfering in labor disputes under its basic policy of seeking autonomous settlement between labor and management.

16-Member Committee Formed

SK010815 Seoul, YONHAP in English 0740 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 1 (YONHAP) -- The government Saturday decided to form a 16-member interministerial committee to cope with overall labor issues as part of the efforts to change its labor policy orientation which in the past focused on the maintenance of public order. The decision, which will give the Labor Ministry both responsibility and policy initiatives on labor affairs, was made at a meeting of five ministers and officials in charge of public security affairs. The meeting was presided over by Chong In-yong, deputy premier and economic planning minister.

The 16-member committee comprising officials from 12 related ministries is to be headed by the vice minister of labor.

By respecting the principles of "self-regulation and self-determination," the government had decided to minimize its intervention as much as possible in labor-management disputes, while encouraging both sides to resolve problems through dialogue and compromise.

In addition, the government will revise and supplement the controversial "labor-related laws" to guarantee constitutional rights of laborers. For an efficient resolution of labor disputes, the government will introduce a "voluntary arbitration" system.

Yi Hon-ki, labor affairs minister, told a new conference that the participants at the meeting shared the view that recently spawned labor-management disputes would pose a serious threat to economic development and social stability. Yi added that the government had decided to actively cope with labor affairs from a pan-governmental point of view. Yi also said that the government will concentrate on fostering an atmosphere under which labor and management can identify and resolve their problems for themselves, restricting direct intervention into labor disputes.

The labor minister, however, outlined a firm stance against those who violate laws through such methods as illegal labor practices and delayed payments, saying that both labor and management should strictly abide by laws.

Yi also expressed his concern that leftist-leaning radical activists might step up their efforts to fuel labor disputes in a joint struggle linking student activists with laborers this fall, when the second semester starts.

According to statistics compiled by the Labor Ministry, a total of 212 cases of labor disputes have erupted in the first seven months of this year, compared with 179 cases in the same period last year. Of the 212 cases, the ministry said, 88 broke out after the announcement of the sweeping democratization formula on June 29 by No Tae-u, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party.

Trade Unions Urge Dialogue

SKO20047 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 2 Aug 87 p 3

[Text] Federation of Korean Trade Union has called upon union members and employers to work together to solve labor problems through dialogue.

The federation made the call after holding a meeting of representatives of trade unions from different industries.

In the call, the federation took note of the fact that there can be no democracy without solutions to be growing serious labor problems, which it called in some sense inevitable because of the accumulation of labor problems during past 20 years. [sentence as published]

The federation urged the government not to try to quench laborers' protests but to show patience waiting for them to be solved through dialogue, while getting tough with those firms obstructing the lawful activities of trade unions.

Employers were asked by the federation to be more sincere in their concern for the interests of their employees and to cease to suppression of legal trade unions.

Some Progress Noted

SKO20041 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 2 Aug 87 p 3

[Text] Struggles at worksites which had been headed for the "worst" situation began to show signs of calming down as labor and management managed to reach a compromise Friday, ending picketings at three important industrial sites in the country.

However, about 21,000 workers at 21 worksites continued their walkout as of yesterday, forcing production lines to be paralyzed for several days.

Following dramatic settlement of labor disputes at Kukje Corporation, Hyundai Heavy Industries and Korea Shipbuilding and Engineering Corp. Friday, striking workers at the Hyundai Mipo Dockyard, Sesin Precision Co. and Hyosung Ind. Co. agreed to go back to work yesterday, ending their sit-ins voluntarily.

Six bus companies at Ulsan and two transportation companies in Pusan resumed normal operation yesterday as drivers and employers hit an accord to hold talks for wage readjustment.

Unlike other companies which resolved their problems through dialogue between labor and management at Ulsan, Tae Kwang Ind. Co. was still engulfed by prolonged sit-in protest by 1,500 workers demanding 25 percent increase in wage.

In the case of Kukje Corporation in Pusan, some 700 strikers voluntarily ended their sit-in at 8:30 Friday as management decided to pay 1,047 million won in vacation allowances to them.

The workers of the nation's leading shoemaker agreed to go back to work on Aug. 5 after having summer vacation unit Aug. 4.

Assembly-line workers who had been staging a sit-in since Aug. 28, demanding more pay, better conditions, and an overhaul of the established trade union, collided with workers at desk jobs, causing 10 people each from both sides to suffer injuries.

Before they struck an agreement, the picketing workers showed violent behavior by setting up gasoline-soaked barricades to keep riot police from entering their sit-in site.

They went back home with some 100 students sending cheering shouts at the entrance of the company. The students were holding a rally in support of the workers' group action lasting four days.

Some 300 workers of the Korea Ship-building and Engineering Corp. went home aboard 17 company buses at 8 p.m. after reaching a compromise with the management. They had gone on strike for seven days.

They voluntarily ended a sit-in after getting a guarantee from the company management and police that they would not hold anyone responsible in connection with the walkout.

Before they were dismissed, they had a brief reporting session in which representatives of workers and company management briefed them about a plan to inaugurate what they called an independent "democratic" trade union.

Workers of Hwasong Industrial Co. who went on strike in the morning also voluntarily broke up their sit-in at 9 p.m.

In the meantime, 15,000 workers of the Hyundai Heavy Industry in Ulsan agreed to return for work, ending their four-day-long sit-in protest.

Labor and management of leading heavy industry of the country reached an accord on a 13-point package, which included that the management would not take "retaliatory" measures against anyone involved in the walkout.

The management agreed to rearrange a wage hike for this year through talks with the trade union which will be newly manned, to allow paid vacations for three days a year for all employees and to pay year-end bonuses to workers without discrimination.

But drivers of six transportation companies in Ulsan also resumed their work yesterday after getting a promise from employers that their wage level will be upgraded to the level of bus drivers working in other cities.

'Autonomous' Settlements Sought

SKO20133 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 2 Aug 87 p 3

[Text] Labor Minister Yi Hun-ki said yesterday the government will seek autonomous settlement of labor disputes in a departure from the past practice of direct meddling.

Yi made the remarks in a news conference following a government labor meeting attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Board Minister Chong In-yong and other ministers.

The labor minister said the government has interfered in labor disputes to seek early settlement out of fear that such disputes could develop into social unrest.

"The government concluded such interference is only brought a stopgap remedy which has been far away from the fundamental solution of labor disputes," Yi said.

Noting that such temporary solutions left a source of frequent labor disputes, Yi said "the government has concluded that autonomous settlement is the best way in a long-term views."

He said the growing number of recent labor disputes are feared to deal a big blow to both economic growth and social security.

Although the ministry has decided not to meddle in labor disputes it will get tough on those employers paying wages in arrears and suppressing legal trade union activities.

Yi said his ministry will step up labor supervision in labor dispute-prone plants in an effort to preclude labor disputes.

He said the labor ministry will take the helm in dealing with labor disputes, which have been on a sharp rise since the June 29 proposal for far-ranging democratic reforms.

Riding on the democratic reform mood, the number of labor disputes is feared to rise in the future, Yi predicted.

He worried that radical students will infiltrate workplaces to incite production-line workers in time for the beginning of the fall semester.

The ministry will help to reinstate employees dismissed for unjustifiable reasons, Yi said.

According to ministry statistics, 212 labor disputes were reported as of the end of July this year, compared to 179 cases during the same period of the previous year.

An average of three labor disputes have been reported daily since June 29, more than four times the daily average before June 29, the statistics showed.

Dealings With Labor Radicals

SKO20102 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 2 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] The government yesterday discussed measures to deal with radical labor movements, in an emergency meeting presided over by Deputy Prime Minister Chong In-yong.

Participants in the meeting included Minister of Finance Sagong II, Minister of Home Affairs Chong Kwan-yong, Minister of Trade and Industry Na Ung-pae and Minister of Labor Affairs Yi Hon-ki.

They agreed that the government should call for restraint on the part of laborers and that management should be free from the government in controlling employees, sources said.

The government meeting came at a time when laborers' demands for their rights are growing.

An Economic Planning Board (EPB) spokesman said the meeting was held at the request of the Ministry of Labor but declined to say where it was held.

Following the Democratic Justice Party's declaration on democratic reform June 29, labor movements became restless with a number of companies trapped in serious labor-management disputes.

The government will intervene in disputes if management is unable to settle them, but calls for managers to respect reasonable demands, they said.

Earlier, a senior official at the EPB said the government will not tolerate radical demands from laborers and will advise management to exercise discretion in relations with employees.

There have been 79 labor-management disputes since DJP leader No Tae-u's declaration on democratic reform in late June.

Companies in trouble with workers include Hyundai Motor Co., Taekwang Industrial Co., Ilsong Textile Co., and Tongyang Nylon Co.

Early last month, the Korea Federation of Trade Union demanded the new constitution carry provisions guaranteeing labor's participation in management and equal distribution of corporate profits between management and labor.

FOUR PARTIES AGREE ON 7-14 AUG ASSEMBLY SESSION

SK010035 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] Four major political parties yesterday agreed to convene special National Assembly session from next Friday through Aug. 14 to discuss a supplementary budget bill for flood rehabilitation and to form a special parliamentary committee on constitutional revision.

The agreement came in a meeting of floor leaders of the ruling Democratic Justice, main opposition Reunification Democratic, New Korea Democratic and Korea National parties.

The floor leaders agreed to create the body on constitutional reform during the eight-day session.

The parties plan to submit to the Assembly secretariat a joint bill today, requesting the convening of the session.

DJP, RDP TO ENTER 'SUBSTANTIAL TALKS' 3 AUG

SK012354 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 2 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] The majority Democratic Justice Party and the main opposition Reunification Democratic Party enter the substantial negotiations over difference in their draft amendments to the Constitution tomorrow.

Eight delegates from the rival parties to a high-level political apparatus had agreed in its inaugural meeting Friday night to complete the inter-party negotiation of the constitutional amendment and related laws by Aug. 20.

The majority DJP yesterday agreed with the minor opposition New Korea Democratic Party and the Korea National Party to hold separate political talks for constitutional amendment from Tuesday.

DJP floor leader Yi Tae-sun told reporters that two of the four delegates to the negotiation with the major opposition RDP will also undertake the negotiation with the NKDP and the two others with the KNP.

The two minor opposition parties earlier had obstructed the opening session of the eight-member political apparatus of the ruling and major opposition parties, demanding their participation in the high-level political talks.

After a two-day tug-of-war with the two minor opposition parties, the DJP agreed Friday night to hold inter-party talks with each of them.

The ruling DJP and the major opposition RDP had a fresh start for the constitutional reform with the agreement on procedural matters and agenda items in the eight-member panel Friday.

Rep. Choe Yong-chol of the DJP and Rep. Pak Yong-man of the RDP, who acted as spokesmen for the eight-member negotiation organ expressed their optimism on the prospect for the rival parties to reach a compromise.

But the future of the projected negotiation of the constitutional amendment between the rival parties is not necessarily bright, in consideration of the intra-party dispute in the major opposition RDP as well as the differences between the DJP and the RDP over the manner of negotiating the major political issues.

The ruling DJP seeks to separate revision of the parliamentary election law from the just-started political talks while the RDP insists that it should be tackled by the same panel.

In addition, the rival Sangdo-dong and Tonggyo-dong factions led by Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung respectively have shown some "delicate" differences over the major political issues.

The Sangdo-dong faction seeks to deal with the constitutional amendment first and then handle election laws, but its rival Tonggyo-dong faction insists on a package deal in the eight-member apparatus.

The conflicting positions between the rival factions in the RDP apparently have something to do with the competition between the two Kims for the presidential nomination.

First Day of Talks End

SKO31137 Seoul YONHAP in English 1128 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 3 (YONHAP) -- The ruling and opposition parties failed to narrow their differences over whether to mention the military's neutrality in the preamble to the projected new constitution in their first day of substantial negotiation Monday.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) and the opposition Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) agreement on the principle of the military's political neutrality but differed sharply over an inclusion of a provision banning the military's intervention in the politics.

The ruling party maintained that it is not necessary to ban political involvement by military in the preamble because it is "a matter of course."

The two parties also failed to agree on whether to mention the people's right to resist the overthrow of dictatorial government.

They decided to discuss the issues concerning the preamble later.

The bipartisan conference was held at the National Assembly after Friday's inaugural session.

The delegates of the two parties began at 2 p.m. the deliberation of the projected new constitution item by item with a table showing the major differences in their respective draft amendments.

Before holding the conference with the RDP, the ruling party finalized its draft amendment, featuring a single six-year presidency and a mandatory five-year residence of a presidential candidate with the country before election.

RDP DEMANDS DISMISSAL OF POLICE OFFICER

SK020010 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 2 Aug 87 p 2

[Text] The Reunification Democratic Party yesterday demanded the dismissal of the police officer who ordered the firing of tear gas shells causing the death of a university student, Yi Han-yol, in an anti-government protest in June.

The request was made by four RDP Assemblymen, including vice president No Sung-hwan, who visited Prime Minister Kim Chong-yol to protest the government's unjust attitude toward various incidents.

The prosecution had earlier announced that it would not take prosecution action against responsible police officers.

The RDP lawmakers also maintained that Gen. Pak Hui-to, chief of staff of Army, should either make an apology for his controversial remarks directed against opposition leader Kim Tae-chung or the government should dismiss him.

In reply, Premier Kim called on the visitors to review their demands for the sake of the honor and morale of the military, saying that to debate on an unconfirmed foreign news report of Pak's remarks does not profit the interest of the nation.

During the hour-long meeting, the opposition lawmakers also urged the government to reinvestigate the "sexual torture" scandal involving Miss Kwon at Puchon Police Station and make public how the secret funds of the Pan Ocean Shipping Corp. were used.

Premier Kim answered he will convey the RDP's demands to the relevant ministries as well as personally concerning himself with the cases.

HENG SAMRIN ON EFFORTS TO SOLVE CAMBODIAN ISSUE

BK310810 Delhi PATRIOT in English 15 Jul 87 p 7

[Text] Phnom Penh, July 14 (PTI) -- Kampuchean President Heng Samrin says India can play an important role in solving the Kampuchean issue.

"We firmly believe that with its valuable experience and past important contributions to restoring and maintaining peace in Indochina, India can play a crucial role in solving the Kampuchean issue as well as the question of peace and stability in Southeast Asia", Mr Heng Samrin told PTI in an interview.

India was the chairman of the International Control and Supervision Commission in 1954.

He said the Kampuchean people as well as the two fraternal peoples of Laos and Vietnam welcomed India's efforts to contribute to promoting a negotiated settlement of the Kampuchean question.

He expressed his willingness to enter into talks with any Khmer (Communist) opposition individual or group to discuss "materialisation of the national reconciliation policy on the basis of the elimination of the Pol Pot clique."

Expressing "deep gratitude" of the Government and people of Kampuchea for India's decision to recognise People's Republic of Kampuchea (PRK) in July 1980, Mr Heng Samrin said the Kampuchean issue could only be settled through peaceful negotiations which must ensure that Pol Pot and his accomplices would never come back to cause suffering to the Kampuchean people.

An estimated two million people are believed to have died during Pol Pot's regime between 1975 and 1979, condemned by many as "barbaric".

Mr Heng Samrin said that any solution to the Kampuchean issue must be based on two aspects, internal and international.

Kampuchea's internal affairs must be settled by the Kampuchea people themselves.

"On this, the PRK has declared its willingness to enter into talks with any Khmer opposition individual or group to discuss the materialisation of the national reconciliation policy on the basis of the elimination of the Pol Pot clique, genocide criminals, and the free general election after the complete withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer army from Kampuchea. The PRK welcomes every effort to act as intermediary in proceeding to such negotiatons", he said.

On the international aspect, Mr Heng Samrin said the withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer army must be carried out alongside the cessation of material and military support for "the Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionary forces."

They should not be allowed to use Thai territory as their sanctuary, and there should be an end to all outside interference in Kampuchea's internal affairs and to all foreign military attacks against the PRK, he said.

Resolutely rejecting the demand for unconditional withdrawal of Vietnamese forces, the 53-year-old Kampuchean leader stressed that the withdrawal of the Vietnamese army volunteers must be coupled with the elimination of the Pol Pot clique.

Answering a question on the bilateral relations between India and Kampuchea, Mr Heng Samrin felt there were many possibilities for further strengthening the relations built on a firm foundation. "Our two ocuntries are members of the non-aligned movement in which India, one of its founders, has played a very great and important role", he said.

Having suffered much from many years of wars and especially the genocide committed by the Pol Pot regime. Mr Heng Samrin said the Kampuchean people cherished peace to rebuild their country, exploiting its rich natural resources to develop the economy.

"India is a country which not only has untiringly struggled for peace and made outstanding achievements in its economic development but also is ready to share our experience and skills with those whom we call our friends as stated by the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi".

He noted that conditions had been created for cooperation between Kampuchea and India in many domains such as agriculture, industry, culture, science and technology, in the framework of the South-South cooperation.

Commenting on the demand for withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, Mr Heng Samrin said the Vietnamese volunteer army had come to help the Kampuchean people overthrow the Pol Pot genocidal clique and continued to help them defend their country against the threat of the Pol Pot remnants abetted by imperialists, expansionists, Thai ultra-rightists and other reactionary forces.

SIHANOUK CANCELS MEETING WITH PRK'S HUN SEN

BK301222 Hong Kong AFP in English 1157 GMT 30 Jul 87

[By Gilles Campion]

[Excerpt] Hanoi, July 30 (AFP) -- Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk cancelled at the last moment a meeting he had arranged with the country's prime minister, Hun Sen, a reliable source said here Thursday.

The prince, who has taken a year's leave of absence, had proposed to meet a member of the Vietnamese Government or of the pro-Vietnamese government in Phnom Penh or both, the source said.

The prince has in the past always refused to involve the Phnom Penh government in his efforts to reach a settlement in Cambodia, which was invaded by Vietnamese troops in December 1978. The invitation was passed on by a representative of Third World country to the Vietnamese Embassy in Pyongyang on May 24, the source said. Vietnam, which has always refused to talk directly to prince Sihanouk, turned it down, the source said.

But the Cambodian prime minister agreed on June 3 and proposed that the meeting should be held in Pyongyang or on the border between the Soviet Union and North Korea, which does not have diplomatic relations with Phnom Penh, the source added.

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On June 23, Prince Sihanouk told Mr Hun Sen, through the Phnom Penh embassy of a socialist country, that everything was ready for a meeting in North Korea. But two days later the prince called the meeting off without giving any reason, the source said.

The cancellation came the day after Prince Sihanouk's wife, Princess Monique, was received by the acting Chinese Prime Minister Wan Li in Beijing. China, which supports the Khmer Rouge, the main Cambodian resistance group, opposes negotiations with the Phnom Penh government while Vietnam still has troops in Cambodia.

A meeting between the prince and Mr Hun Sen at the end of 1984 failed to get off the ground, apparently because of Beijing's disapproval, sources said. [passage omitted]

VONADK REPORTS GRENADE ATTACKS IN PHNOM PENH

BK260330 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 25 Jul 87

[From the "Daily Report From Various Battlefields" feature]

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh City battlefield: On 16 July, our National Army in cooperation with the local people and patriotic Cambodian soldiers lobbed grenades at a Vietnamese truck convoy carrying goods to Vietnam along Chruoy Changva Bridge in Phnom Penh City. We killed four Vietnamese, wounded another, and destroyed a truck and all the goods in it.

On 20 July, our National Army in cooperation with the local people and patriotic Cambodian soldiers lobbed grenades at Vietnamese motorboats carrying goods along the river in front of Phsa Chas in Phnom Penh City, killing two Vietnamese, wounding four others, and destroying two motorboats and all the goods on board.

On 20 July, another group of our National Army in cooperation with the local people and patriotic Cambodian soldiers lobbed grenades at Vietnamese in the central market in Phnom Penh City, killing one and wounding another. [passage omitted]

Further Report

BKO30310 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 2 Aug 87

[From the "Daily Report from Various Battlefields" feature]

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh battlefield: On 20 July, our National Army, in cooperation with people and patriotic Cambodian soldiers, lobbed grenades at the Vietnamese enemy near Chamka Mon, wounding a Vietnamese captain. On the same evening, another group of our combatants, in cooperation with people and patriotic Cambodian soldiers, lobbed grenades at the Vietnamese enemy west of Sereipheap restaurant, wounding a Vietnamese soldier.

On the night of 21 July, our National Army cooperated with people and patriotic Cambodian soldiers and lobbed grenades at the Vietnamese enemy in front of Bak Tuk School in Phnom Penh, wounding three Vietnamese soldiers. [passage omitted]

PASASON URGES IMPLEMENTATION OF ONE-PRICE POLICY

BK301722 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 29 Jul 87

[PASASON 29 July editorial: "Implement One-Price Policy"]

[Text] The Council of Ministers recently issued a decree on the one-price policy applicable to all categories of goods and to all spheres of production and business — the buying and selling of material and equipment, agro-forestry products, services, and foreign exchange rates.

The one-price concept means the price of a given commodity appearing at a given place and time, based on an agreement mutually reached between the buyer and the seller. The one-price policy is applicable to retail and wholesale prices and transportation fees of all types.

Retail prices are the prices that appear spontaneously in a market and are not falsely fixed with opportunist intentions to make profit in an unjust manner. Wholesale prices are the prices which are mutually agreed upon between wholesale trade enterprises and retail trade enterprises, the prices of industrial goods sold to customers on the basis of mutual agreement, and the rates of transportation mutually agreed upon by transportation enterprises and their customers.

The one-price policy is also applicable to the rates of foreign exchange for payment and for foreign exchange businesses operating in the market.

The decree of the Council of Ministers also clearly stipulates that with regard to price control, only the Council of Ministers shall decide the pricing line and policy at a given period. Various ministries and municipal and provincial administrative committees are strictly not allowed to intervene in detailed pricing affairs. The government shall reserve the right to fix the prices of some categories of goods which can be balanced by the state, such as the price of electricity, potable water, various kinds of fuel, steel, cement, machinery, fuel-consuming vehicles, mineral products, post and transportation, and air passenger transport. Meanwhile, various business units have the right to devise and suitably determine prices as they appear in the market.

The question of price is a matter of life and death for various business units. For a business unit to survive or expand its business, it must balance its expenditures and income. To achieve this, such a business unit is authorized to fix the net prices of its goods as they appear in the market. If it fixes the prices too high, society will not be able to accept them, it will not be able to sell all its goods, its revolving fund will not be properly maintained, and its workers will not be paid. As a result, this situation will force such an enterprise to change its management techniques in order to lower the prices of its finished produced while trying to make profit.

In short, the one-price policy adopted by the Council of Ministers is applicable to all categories of retail and wholesale goods, purchasing prices of farm products, prices of construction materials, prices of transportation and services, and rates of foreign exchange. These prices are to be devised for goods as they appear in the market at a given place and time.

The decision of the Council of Ministers on the one-price policy is correct, taking into consideration the current economic conditions and situation in our country, because the movement of prices is an objective phenomenon governed by the law of value, reflecting the supply-demand relationship and the real value of the money, which no power can force it to move at whim.

At the early stage, it is certain that our state's one-price policy will create an opportunity for those having goods in their stock to increase the prices as they wish. However, this will only be temporary. Looking at things in farsighted and all-round manner, this one-price policy will gradually produce positive results in stimulating the working people in our country to actively produce goods. In the immediate future, this policy will enable our state to better grasp goods and money, eliminate the loophole from which the opportunists can smuggle state goods to foreign countries for large profits. In other fields, the policy will enable various production and business units to apply a comprehensive business accounting system and take the initiative in their business activities in all spheres, thereby eliminating the self-sufficient economy that depends on nature only, and leading the whole country to advance gradually in producing goods.

MINISTRY INITIATES ANTI-DROUGHT CAMPAIGN

BKO20744 Vientiane KPL in English 0938 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Vientiane, July 28 (KPL) -- The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Irrigation and Agri-Cooperatives set up in mid-July a Committee for the Promotion of Rice Production.

The committee has sent three groups to various production bases in Vientiane to help fight against drought.

Specialists of the ministry, in the past two weeks, have installed 12 electric pumping stations, each equipped with a 30hp motor.

The ministry has also dispatched a number of specialists to drought-affected areas in the north and south to find out ways to overcome the drought.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECRETARY FERRER ASSASSINATED

HKO30145 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] Local Government Secretary Jaime Ferrer was killed with his driver last night in an ambush in front of his house in Paranaque. The killers are believed to be NPA assassins. According to Mr Ferrer's younger brother Wally, three men were arrested shortly. [as heard] Police however have not confirmed this until late last night. Other reports in fact indicated that the gunmen had escaped near the domestic airport. Police and military authorities found the car commandeered by the assassins on the scene. Four men attacked Mr Ferrer with high-powered guns as his car approached the gate to his home in Victor Medina Street at about 6:30 pm. Mr Ferrer [words indistinct] died from several head and body wounds at the San Juan de Dios Hospital in Pasay City minutes after his arrival there. His driver died instantly.

Although there is no confirmation yet, the authorities strongly believe that NPA rebels were Secretary Ferrer's killers. He had received death threats prior to his killing for his organization and support of anticommunist vigilante groups. Secretary Ferrer was included in the communists' list for assassination. This was confirmed by communist informers. Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos mobilized the entire intelligence and operational units of the military, and the police in Metro Manila are now involved in the hunt for Ferrer's killers.

Metro Manila Governor Jejomar Binay says he strongly suspects that Ferrer was killed by elements who are against the government. Binay said he is offering a P50,000 reward for anybody who could provide information leading to the arrest of Secretary Ferrer's killers.

[Begin Binay recording] I have taken upon myself that I'll bring this matter to the attention of the other mayors, [words indistinct] we are offering P50,000 for anyone who can give valuable information that will lead to the arrest of those involved in the killing. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Senator Aguilino Pimentel, who was succeeded by Mr Ferrer as local government secretary, said it is regrettable that a man like Secretary Ferrer, who his whole life was serving his country so well, was ambushed for no apparent reason at all. Mr Pimentel said Ferrer's killing will complicate the peace process and will make the reconciliation more difficult for all parties concerned. Mr Ferrer is survived by his wife Eriberta, his daughter Grace and sons Jaime Tirso, Jaime Jimmy and Jaime Toti.

Officials Denounce Killing

HKO30745 Hong Kong AFP in English 0731 GMT 3 Aug 87

[By Roberto Coloma]

[Excerpts] Manila, Aug 3 (AFP) -- The assassination of a senior Philippine cabinet member has shocked the country and underscored the fragility of peace and order in a nation struggling to restore stable democracy, officials said Monday.

As flags flew at half-mast in mourning for the murder Sunday of Local Governments Secretary Jaime Ferrer, the Manila press speculated that the killing was the work of leftist urban guerrillas who had targeted him for assassination for his backing of civilian anticommunist vigilantes.

Investigators however have put forward no theory to explain the murder of Mr Ferrer and his driver near his suburban Manila home, and no group has claimed responsibility for the first assasination of a cabinet member.

President Corazon Aquino, who earlier denounced the killing as "senseless and barbaric," called an emergency cabinet meeting Monday to discuss the killing. Police, military and city officials also attended the meeting.

It's a murder that has shocked everybody," Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno told reporters after the emergency meeting at the presidential palace.

Right-wing opposition leader Rafael Recto, chief lawyer here for desposed President Ferdinand Marcos, said the killing was a "terrible thing to happen."

"I feel as bad as anybody else that this terrible thing has happened."

Members of the new Philippine Congress, whose July 27 inauguration was widely thought to have enhanced political stability, meanwhile questioned the current security setup, particularly in this capital of eight million people.

Senator Aquilino Pimentel said the killing underscored "the sad state of affairs of peace and order in our country."

Antonio Cuenco, speaker pro-tempore of the House of Representatives, said "there can be no economic recovery under the present state of affairs."

They and other congressional leaders who spoke at a press forum agreed on the need for new laws to strengthen peace and order, starting with the return of police control to city and municipal mayors. [passage omitted]

Brigadier General Alexander Aquirre, the capital's security chief, said one factor in the rise of crime was the preoccupation of the military and police with containing armed threats against the 17-month-old Aquino administration.

Mr Benigno said the palace meeting discussed the security of cabinet members, but he and some other secretaries declined to have bodyguards.

Responding to criticism that the government was not in control of the situation, he said Mrs Aquino "certainly realizes the gravity, and will be involved in formulating the necessary measures to cope with the situation."

Mr Benigno released to the press a sketch of one of the three suspects -- a fair-skinned man believed to be about 26 years old.

Investigators said one of the suspects was believed wounded because fresh bloodstains were found in their stolen getaway car, which was abandoned near the ambush site in suburban Paranaque, Mr Ferrer's longtime bailiwick.

"We cannot guard everybody, we just have to be on the alert. We cannot provide security for everyone. We do take a chance when we accept this job but we are prepared to take the challenge," Defense Secretary Rafael Ileto said.

Armed Forces chief of staff General Fidel Ramos said after the meeting that increased citizen participation in safeguarding peace and order was discussed.

Metropolitan Manila Governor Jejomar Binay said "the government capacity to combat crime is now being challenged. Specifically, the local governments are requested to work hand and hand with the people in uniform."

Mr Binay agreed that the Ferrer killing was apparently part of a concerted effort to rub out high government officials.

Widespread speculation of communist involvement in the murder was based on a threat by communist New People's Army (NPA) urban guerrillas earlier this year to kill Mr Ferrer for his support of right-wing vigilante squads.

Communist assassins in Manila usually operate in trios.

But some observers said Mr Ferrer, in his capacity as Secretary of Local Governments, was reputed to have made many political enemies by sacking dozens of provincial, city and municipal officials for alleged malpractice or questionable loyalty to Mrs Aquino.

The president enjous extraordinary powers through the local governments secretary to appointed or replace such officials until polls set for November 9.

Officials' Security Tightened

OW030745 Tokyo KYODO in English 0723 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Manila, Aug. 3 KY ODO -- A high-level government "crisis committee" agreed to tighten security for senior government officials and to strictly implement gun-control laws, Armed Forces Chief Fidel Ramos said Monday.

President Corazon Aquino called the committee to a meeting at the presidential palace to discuss the government's response to the first assassination of a Philippine cabinet official under her 17-month old government.

Also discussed at the meeting, Ramos said, were a system for handling information provided by citizens and the possible reasons for the killing of Ferrer, a staunch anti-communist.

Aquino has ordered all flags to be flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning for the slain government official.

25 JULY CLASH ENDS INFORMAL MNLF-NPA ALLIANCE

BK011222 Hong Kong AFP in English 1211 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Iligan, Philippines, Aug 1 (AFP) -- Moslem and communist rebels clashed near here recently, ending an informal alliance, the military said Saturday.

Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) members and guerrillas of the Communist New People's Army (NPA) fought each other July 25, said Colonel Raul Aquino, army chief in the southern province of Lanao Del Norte.

The Tunda Force, a group of Moslem bandits and kidnappers under the command of provincial MNLF head Commander Solitario, ambushed five NPA men in nearby Tangkal town, killing four and seizing five rifles and four hand grenades, Col. Aquino said.

The MNLF and the National Democratic Front, a communist insurgent coalition that includes the NPA, agreed an informal alliance in this province April 27. Last month they killed two soldiers in their first joint attack, reported by the military.

The clash marked the end of the "much-ballyhooed" alliance between the two anti-government forces, Col. Aquino commented.

The NPA is now "girding for a showdown with their Moslem counterparts" to avenge the deaths of their comrades, he said.

MNLF-REFORMIST LEADER DENIES UNITED WAR EFFORT

BK011434 Hong Kong AFP in English 1427 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Manila, Aug 1 (AFP) -- A Moslem rebel leader Saturday denied that the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) had reunited all its factions in declaring war against the government, the PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) said.

Dimas Pundato, leader of the MNLF-Reformist faction, called on the two other factions to exhaust all peaceful avenues to win self-rule for the Moros, this Roman Catholic nation's Moslem minority, PNA said.

"As long as the gate of peace is open, efforts to settle the problem in an atmosphere of peace and reconciliation should be welcome," the state-run news agency quoted him as saying, following press reports of a united front.

He said there were efforts to reconcile his group with the Mainstream MNLF led by Nur Misuari and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, led by Hashim Salamat. But he said they had not united to wage war against the government.

Pundato's group is the smallest of the Moro rebel factions. The Salamat group has largely been silent in the past months.

Mr. Misuari has been threatening war from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, where he is enlisting the support of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in his demand for immediate autonomy for 13 provinces without a plebiscite first. Manila insists on a plebiscite to determine if residents favor autonomy. An impasse on the issue led to a suspension of peace talks in May.

COURT HALTS CONSTRUCTION OF SOVIET BUILDING

HKO20830 Hong Kong AFP in English 0822 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] Manila, Aug 2 (AFP) -- A court has stopped the construction of a Soviet embassy extension building in the plush Forbes Park Village area here, the MANILA BULLETIN newspaper reported Sunday.

The ruling followed protests from residents of the elite district, who said that the building violated local construction regulations and could be used to spy on a nearby army headquarters.

Spokesmen for the Soviet embassy were unavailable for comment Sunday;

The Court of Appeals ruled that the building was a gross violations of Forbes Park construction regulations, and that lots in the village should be used for residential purposes only, the BULLETIN said.

It dismissed the Soviet embassy's contention that the building was intended as a single family residence, because of the shape, size and number of rooms in outbuildings that had already been completed, the newspaper said.

Courts were closed for the weekend and the report could not be immediately confirmed.

RAMOS ON 'POISON' LETTERS, MEDIA CHARGES

HK010946 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 1 Aug 87 pp 1, 10

[By Cesar M. Espino]

[Text] An Irate Gen Fidel V. Ramos yesterday lashed out at extreme rightwingers, hinting they were responsible for circulating "poison letters" being circulated in military camps, calling on servicemen to overthrow the government.

The letters charged that the Aquino administration is "now full of corruption," and that it had engaged in fraud during the May 11 elections.

Copies of the letter -- signed by a group calling itself the Grand Opposition to the Aquino Dictatorship -- are being given to soldiers inside military camps. (It will be recalled that an oppositionist group which staged a riotous indignation rally at Epifanio de los Santos Ave. soon after the May 11 elections also used the same name.)

The move, purportedly made by extreme rightwingers, comes on the heels of former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile's accusation that the administration is trying to silence the opposition by blocking his proclamation as senator.

Enrile and ruling coalition bet Augusto Sanchez are in a tight contest for the 24th and last seat in the Senate.

Among other things, the letter urged soldiers "to decide whether our new leaders deserve our continued support in the face of the most shameless fraud perpetrated upon the people."

The "poison letters," unlike other ultra-rightist propaganda, took the position of being supportive of the Aquino administration at first, until the alleged cheating in the May 11 elections and alleged corruption in government surfaced.

The letter told readers that during the February Revolution, the military "took the side of the Filipino people to uphold what you believed were the real results of that snap election period. Because of your decisive intervention, the old regime passed away and the Aquino administration was born.

"All over the country, our people are enraged about the almost indiscriminate cheating in the May 11 elections. The people's will has been violated, and the violators are determined to foist upon the nation 'senators elect' and 'congressmen elect' who could not possibly win humbly positions in clean and honest elections."

It added, "the government, enmeshed in corruption and drunk with arrogance and power...now seeks to extinguish the opposition, including those who have been voted upon by our people in this last election."

The letter told soldiers "this is the same situation we faced in February 1986 when you chose to play your historic role."

General Ramos said aside from isolated cases of irregularities emanating from differences between political rivals the May 11 elections were clean.

"Insofar as the armed forces are concerned, there was none of the gravest irregularities that emanated from the higher levels. I know that because I was there at the very high level. I never received any order to do anomalies and I myself did not give orders to carry out things that were either illegal, abusive or anomalous.

"And if there were military personnel who have somehow failed in their election duties, that is their own failing, their own individual defect and those that have been complained against are being investigated by us," Ramos said.

Ramos spoke after a "fun run" at Camp Aguinaldo that marked the celebration of the 33rd anniversary of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Dental Service.

In a rate display of irritation, the usually cool General Ramos also expressed disgust over media's "unfair" practice of giving more attention to personalities who are creating what he termed as instablity and uncertainty within the military -- "rather than seeing the larger part of the armed forces who are doing their jobs."

"It's unfair when people write about the armed forces in terms of these undisciplined people who are out of the mainstream, so do not judge the armed forces as such," he said.

Ramos also for the first time reacted to rightists' accusation that he is soft on the communists.

"This business of they being right because they are anti-communist is the most self-serving and the most misleading statement that you can make. What are they trying to say — that they are anti-communists and the rest of the armed forces who are not with them are not?

"They are the ones who are not fighting communism because they have taken themselves away from their units, who are fighting communists," Ramos said.

He added: "Nobody has fought the communists longer than Ramos in the active service, I want you to know that. And that even includes a great majority of those who have retired. I just happen to have been longer in the active service. That on my first day as a second lieutenant commanding troops as a platoon leader, and an assistant battalion S-2 (intelligence) in the 2nd Battalion Combat Team in Laguna, I fought the communists as part of three battalion combat teams.

"I went up the ladder. Platoon leader, battalion staff officer, company commander, task force commander, special forces group commander, brigade commander at five different periods in our country's history — the early Huk [hukbong magpapalaya sa bayan: freedom fighters of the nation] campaign, Korean War, middle Huk campaign, the Vietnam War and I was head of the advance party that went to the Cambodian border in the so-called Alligator's Jaw war zone.

"And what is this special forces group I commanded in the Philippine Army from 1962 to 1965? That was the only remaining combat unit in the field of the Philippine Army. The rest was training in a division setup. And we were in Northern Luzon, we were in Sulu. And then during the previous regime, Marawi incident — sino'ng nagpunta doon? [Who went there?] Si Ramos. [Ramos did.] Pasok sa kampo, [I entered the camp,] being besieged by 400 rebel outlaws in seven groups. Kaya kung minsan, tingnan n'yo 'yung record ng tao. Huwag kayong sulat nang sulat. Sabi walang combat experience, walang combat experience...tingnan n'yo kung sino rito ang nanggaling sa platoon leader, dumaan sa battalion staff [That's why, look at the person's record. Don't just keep on writing, saying that he has no combat experience. No combat experience...look who rose up from being platoon leader, went through battalion staff] company commander, group commander which is like a battalion, brigade commander, here and abroad.

"I never had an abroad assignment that was not combat or troop. No soft job for Ramos. Thirty-seven years. Tandaan n'yo 'yan, [remember that] so that when you evaluate the armed forces, you evaluate it in terms of the hardships, which is represented by the majority of soldiers that are ignored because you are writing about the fringe. Do not judge the armed forces by these guys who are creating the instability and uncertainty. You write about the majority of the armed forces who are here on the job. That's why we are enjoying our freedom.

"Nandito ba kayo kapag 'yang vajority of the armed forces na'yan did their jobs?," [Will you be here when [the majority of the armed forces do their jobs?] he asked. "I doubt it very much."

RUSSIANS ALLEGEDLY TEACHING COMMUNISM IN DAVAO

HK240701 Davao City THE DAILY SAN PEDRO EXPRESS in English 10 Jul 87 pp 1, 2

[By Al Josol]

[Text] Four foreign nationals whom the authorities suspected to be Russians were monitored by military intelligence community to have conducted teach-ins on communism among youths in Daliao, Toril.

This was learned yesterday from a report made by the Regional Intelligence Unit XI to the commanding officer of the Davao Metrodiscom [Metropolitan District Command] and to the commander of the 2nd scout ranger battalion stationed in Malagos, Baguio district.

According to the intelligence report last July 3, 1987 at about 12 noon, intelligence men of the military were able to gather information that four unidentified foreign nationals conducted lectures at Felton and Kalayaan beach in Daliao, Toril, Davao City.

Participants to the said teach-ins were mostly youth. The activities were supposedly religious ones. However, subjects on communism were heavily tackled.

The foreign nationals reportedly introduced themselves as religious personalities.

On the same day, according to intelligence reportss, some seventy fully armed men were seen patrolling mountainous areas in barangays Bato and Banas in Toril. The armed group was reportedly led by a certain Ron Geen with an alias known only as Buktot.

The report however, did not say whether this Ron Geen is a foreigner.

The group of Geen was reportedly collecting food stuff from civilian residents of the said places.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER THIANCHAI RECEIVED VESSEY

BK311458 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] General John W. Vessey, U.S. presidential envoy, and his party paid a courtesy call on Deputy Prime Minister General Thianchai Sirisamphan at Government House today at 0930. The group was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador to Thailand William A. Brown.

Gen John Vessey is visiting Thailand from 30-31 July, and will return for another visit on 3-5 August after a trip to Hanoi. At today's meeting, Lieutenant General Chalom Wisamon, deputy secretary general to the prime minister for political affairs, was also present.

The deputy prime minister expressed a warm welcome to the U.S. presidential envoy and his party. Gen Thianchai and Gen Vessey exchanged views on the friendly relations between Thailand and the United States. The U.S. presidential envoy said he is going to Vietnam for talks with the Vietnamese leaders about American soldiers missing in action. He noted the smooth relations and cooperation between Thailand and the United States, and the success of the "Cobra Gold" joint military exercise between the two countries. They also exchanged views on other aspects of the region. The U.S. presidential envoy and the Thai deputy prime minister agreed that efforts be made to strengthen relations between Thailand and the United States.

PRC OFFERS TO SELL MISSILES, SUBMARINES

BKO20001 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Aug 87 p 3

[Text] China has proposed to sell at "friendship prices" anti-aircraft missiles and submarines to Thailand for use in the Royal Thai Navy [RTN], according to Navy Chief-of-Staff Adm Komut Kamonnawin.

The proposal was made to a team of RTN officers, led by Adm Komut, which visited China for 10 days last month. Adm Komut told THE NATION yesterday that the Chinese anti-aircraft missiles are quite sophisticated and are not at all inferior to similar weapons from the West. "We were quite impressed by the test firing of some of these missiles," he said.

The RTN team made no commitment for any purchase during the visit, Adm Komut reported.

"We didn't have any plan to buy anything from China. It will take some time to see if the RTN needs anything from China," he said.

The Royal Thai Army has bought battle tanks, armoured personnel carriers, 130-mm artillery and ammuntion and 37-mm anti-aircraft guns. The Royal Thai Air Force [RTAF] has also bought 37-mm anti-aircraft guns, but the RTN has not yet bought any arms from China.

The Chinese were very anxious to sell some arms to the RTN, Adm Komut said.

Adm Komut's team also included RTAF officers who visited Chinese airbases and aircraft factories. The RTAF has reportedly shown some interest in Chinese combat trainer jets.

The RTAF has a shortage of modern combat trainer jets. The RTN, on the other hand, has a long-term plan to reactivate its submarine warfare unit.

There were reports earlier that China would give or sell at a "friendship price" diesel-electric submarines similar to the Soviet Romeo class submarines. The Soviet Union, however, no longer deploys this type of patrol submarines on front-line duty but still uses some of them for training and research.

Adm Komut said the RTN is interested in the Chinese submarines and the anti-aircraft missiles. He said the anti-aircraft missiles could be installed on warships as well as naval bases. He said China has offered to sell the anti-aircraft missiles and submarines at "friendship prices."

In the purchase of arms from China by the Thai Army, the "friendship prices" amount to only about 5 percent of the normal market prices. Moreover, China is willing to take agricultural products as payment for the purchase.

EMBASSIES WARNED ON HOSTILE PROPAGANDA ATTACKS

BK011029 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has appealed to all foreign embassies to refrain from publishing articles in local newspapers criticizing other countries or the leaders of other countries. Sarot Chawanawirat, director of the Information Department said:

[Begin recording] The Thai Foreign Ministry would like to point out that it is a matter of diplomatic etiquette that an embassy in a country not use the host country as an arena in which to attack other countries which maintain relations with the host country. We have sent a circular to all embassies to this effect. We would like to ask representatives of the mass media to use judgment before publishing or broadcasting articles of this nature. If you suspect that any phrase might affect relations between Thailand and any other country, please consult with me. Please do not publish or broadcast such articles before checking their accuracy. [end recording]

CABINET RESHUFFLE POSSIBLE BEFORE BUDGET DEBATE

BKO20005 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon is expected to reshuffle his Cabinet before the opening of the extraordinary session of Parliament to deliberate the second and third readings of the 1988 Budget Bill in September, an informed political source said yesterday.

The source said the Democrat and Social Action parties would be affected in the reshuffle.

The Democrat Party's rival factions will meet on Wednesday to settle their disputes and the dissident group has threatened to become an independent group within the party if their demands, which include calls for a Cabinet reshuffle, are not met.

The Democrat Cabinet members who are likely to lose their portfolios in the reshuffle are Public Health Minister Thoetphong Chaiyanan, Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Wichit Saengthong, Deputy Public Health Minister Watcharin Ketawandi, Deputy Agriculture Minister Suthep Thuaksuban, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Energy Plachit Rattakun, Deputy Industry Minister Sombun Chiramakon and either Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Amnuai Suwankhiri or Deputy Interior Minister Sawai Phatthano, the source said.

The dissidents tipped to be included in the new Cabinet line-up were Pattani MP Den Tohmina, Nakhon Si Thammarat MP Thawin Praison, Bangkok MP Chaloemphan Siwikon and Bangkok MP Decho Sawananon.

Whether Wira Musikaphong, a leader of the dissident group, would be given a cabinet post would depend on the court verdict in Buri Ram over the lese majeste charge against him.

Social Action Party Cabinet members who might be replaced in the reshuffle are Deputy Agriculture Minister Prayut Siriphanit and Commerce Minister Montri Phongphanit, the source said.

OPPOSITION, KHUKRIT SEEK TO UNSEAT PREM

BK020003 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Aug 87 p 9

[By Naowarat Suksamran]

[Text] The opposition bloc and former premier M.R. Khukirt Pramot share one common goal: they both want to unseat Premier General Prem Tinsulanon.

For M.R. Khukrit, unseating Prem has become a personal crusade. He simply hates Prem's guts for playing it cool in spite of all the criticisms. For the opposition bloc, unseating Prem is the only way of forming a new coalition government and getting a piece of the political pie.

Last week, during a panel discussion in Chiang Mai, opposition leaders made their bold move: they openly called for the Democrat Party to desert the Prem V Government and join the opposition bloc in forming a new coalition government without Prem in it.

This may sound ridiculous. And Democrat Party leader Phichai Rattakun quickly dismissed it during his talk at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand last Tuesday night. But several opposition leaders believe they are offering a real and practical option to the Democrats who have been increasingly unhappy with Prem and the three other partners in the government coalition.

Prachakon Thai Party leader Samak Suntharawet noted that the conflict between the Democrat Party leadership and the dissident Democrat MPs in the group of January 10 has not yet been actually resolved, although there were reports about a "breakthrough" in the negotiations between the two sides in the Democrat Party last week. Moreover, several Democrats, including the new faction of former MP Chalat Worachat (the Group of Democratic Ideology), have called for a withdrawal of the party from the government coalition in order to restore unity in the party which has a long tradition of being the backbone of the opposition against the army-led right-wing governments during the 1950s to early 1970s.

However, the latest development in the Democrat Party indicated that a resolution to the conflict in the party is now within reach. Some Democrat executives have said a list of nominees for Cabinet posts from the Group of January 10 may soon be submitted to Prem who has dropped strong hints that he would reshuffle the Cabinet and include leaders of the Group of January 10 in the new Cabinet line-up if this could help end the conflict in the party. If this is the case, what will the opposition bloc do next? According to Samak, the next move is to develop ties with the two other major parties in the government coalition: the Chat Thai and the Social Action Again, the basic rationale behind this move is to offer an alternative to these two parties which are also unhappy with the Democrat Party over several issues, including the copyright amendment and the "wayward" disposition of the Group of January 10.

Samak, nevertheless, admitted that there is only a remote possibility that these two parties will be interested in this offer. For the Chat Thai Party has a reputation of wanting to stay with the government at any cost, and the Social Action Party [SAP] still sees the pros outweigh the cons in staying with the Prem V Administration. Moreover, SAP leader Foreign Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila is enjoying his role as the "chief architect" of Thai foreign policy. He is also a loyal friend of Prem. Sitthi's loyalty to Prem has been the main reason for the sour relations between him and M.R. Khukrit, who was the founder and the first SAP leader. M.R. Khukrit quit the party on August 1, 1986 because he did not want to be in a government party.

As M.R. Khukrit publicly vowed last week that he would not rest until Prem has been unseated, the opposition bloc started making preparations for trying to submit a new censure motion against Prem and his Cabinet in the upcoming House session in September. The prospect of mustering 70 votes required in submitting the motion is good because of the growing dissent in the otherwise pro-government United Democratic Party [UDP] in the opposition bloc. Many MPs in the UDP, which is the largest in the opposition bloc, have pledged their support for a censure motion because they were disappointed their party has not been co-opted into the government coalition.

Most of the 38 UDP MPs withheld their support for the two censure motions in the previous House session because some "go-betweens" promised to persuade Prem to co-opt the UDP in the government coalition. The opposition bloc had only 69 votes in the first and 67 votes in the second unsuccessful attempt to submit the censure motion. With support from most of the 38 UDP MPs, the opposition bloc will have more than enough to sponsor a new censure motion. MP Col Phon Roengprasoetwit (UDP, Uthai Thani), who is the chief financier of the UDP, has told THE NATION that he will let his MPs have a "free vote" on the question of sponsoring the censure motion. Phon personally believes that Prem has been in office for too long and has become complacent.

Whether or not the opposition bloc will be able to submit the censure motion remains to be seen. One cannot dismiss the possibility of another concerted effort of Prem's supporters in the army and bureaucracy in lobbying against the censure motion again. And the UDP is highly vulnerable to such lobbying.

If the opposition bloc manages to submit the censure motion, the 232 MPs of the government coalition can easily outvote the opposition bloc in a non-confidence vote in the House which has 347 MPs.

But the real motive of censuring the Prem V Administration, said opposition leaders, is to embarrass Prem and erode public confidence in his leadership. This, coupled with M.R. Khukrit's mounting criticism against Prem, could precipitate Prem's downfall, according to opposition leaders. When that time comes, the Democrat, Chat Thai and Social Action parties may seriously start looking for an alternative. Thus, the opposition bloc's call for the Democrat Party to leave Prem and join the opposition bloc in forming a new coalition government is not too far-fetched, after all.

Khukrit on Prem's Replacement

BK020006 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Aug 87 pp 1, 3

[Text] Former prime minister M.R. Khukrit Pramot would not object to Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut being the next prime minister because "at least he is a new face," although he does not personally support the army chief for the office.

M.R. Khukrit, during a press interview at his Chiang Mai residence on the Ping River on Friday night, was asked if he thought Gen Chawalit's efforts to make the Northeast green were aimed at winning him support for the premiership.

The elder statesman said, "I don't know. But, he (Gen Chawalit) has begun the project. Whoever is the next prime minister must continue it or he will be criticised by the public."

He said he would not mind Gen Chawalit being premier. It would be better to have a new one than an old one who has been in the position for six years and has done nothing, he said, apparently referring to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon.

Asked whether he supports Gen Chawalit for the post, M.R. Khukrit said: "No, but I have no objection to him coming to power. I have no power to support anybody.

"If Gen Chawalit is prime minister, let him be. If so, I hope he would do good for the country. Whoever comes to this position, I hope he does the same."

M.R. Khukrit said he also would not support Bangkok Governor Chamlong Simuang for the premiership.

"Maj-Gen Chamlong was elected Bangkok governor because he was himself and had no backing from a political party. Things would be different if Maj-Gen Chamlong set up a political party. If he did so and ran for governor again, the support for him would not be the same as before," he said.

Asked to predict the political fortunes of Gen Chawalit and Maj-Gen Chamlong, M.R. Khukrit said: "Figure it out for yourselves. Gen Prem used to say where the support for his premiership comes from. Does Maj-Gen Chamlong have this kind of support?

"To become prime minister these days one cannot rely on votes or party backing. Gen Prem has clearly said what kind of support he relied on to get his position. If Maj-Gen Chamnlong had the same support, then he could be prime minister.

Gen Prem had said that his premiership relies mainly on the military for support. M.R. Khukrit declined to compare Gen Chawalit and Maj-Gen Chamlong, saying that he respects them both. He also declined to comment on Prachakon Thai Party leader Samak Suntharawet's remark that there could be a repeat of the October 14, 1973 uprising if Gen Prem continued as premier, saying that the vent had been a traumatic one for Thailand.

On a Cabinet reshuffle of Democrat ministers, M.R. Khukrit said Gen Prem should consult Phatthalung MP Wira Musikaphong and party secretary-general Lt-Col Sanan Khachonprasat as soon as possible to end the fighting in the party.

"Don't pass it on to Khun Phichai (Rattakun) because he cannot do anything concerning this matter," he said, with a touch of irony.

Since the pro-Phichai group has 53 MPs and the "January 10 Group" 47, he said, a fair ratio for the Democrats' 15 ministers should be 8:7.

Gen Prem cannot say he has nothing to do with the Democrat conflict because he is responsible for stabilising his government, M.R. Khukrit said, adding that exclusion of the 47 dissidents would endanger the Budget Bill in Parliament.

If Gen Prem cannot solve this problem, he should resign or dissolve Parliament. Dissolution of Parliament would still cause problems, however, because Gen Prem would not readily step down and would try to retain the premiership, M.R. Khukrit said.

He stressed that the Democrat problem should be solved before Parliament reconvenes in September.

The elder statesman said his "Soi Suan Phlu" column in SIAM RAT daily has had some effect. For example, his criticism of people who have demanded donations, using His Majesty the King's birthday as an excuse, had prompted Interior Minister Prachuap Suntharangkun to order an end to the practice.

UNREGISTERED KHMER REFUGEES RELOCATED TO SITE B

BK020002 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Aug 87 p 3

[Excerpt] About 160 Khmers who had lived without permission from Thai or United Nations officials in a refugee camp inside Thailand were on Tuesday [28 July] moved to a border encampment, sources in relief agencies said Friday.

The Supreme Command relocated the 166 Khmers from Khao I-Dang camp in Prachinburi Province to Site B in Surin Province.

It was the third relocation of Khmers who lived in the camp without the registration of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to Site B this year. In March, 230 Khmers were moved from Khao I-Dang, followed by 175 in April.

Maj Gen Surin Worathat of the Supreme Command said the military will continue hauling out the Khmers and send them to border encampments.

After the relocation of this group, the military will start moving other Khmers who are refugees, Maj Gen Surin on Friday told the 10th annual conference of the Committee for Coordination of Services to Displaced Persons in Thailand (CCSDPT).

The government announced the closure of Khao I-Dang on January 1, 1987. [passage omitted]

REPORTAGE ON GEN VESSEY'S MIA TALKS IN HANOI

Meets Nguyen Dy Nien

BKO11150 Hong Kong AFP in English 0943 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Hanoi, Aug 1 (AFP) -- U.S. Presidential Envoy General John Vessey arrived in Hanoi Saturday to try to find a solution to the issue of American servicemen missing in action (MIA's) during the Vietnam war.

He told reporters on arrival he hoped progress would be made during his visit. When asked if he had any new proposals for his Vietnamese hosts, he replied: "The solutions are here." Asked about Hanoi's wish to discuss issues other than the fate of the 1,700 MIA's, Gen. Vessey said: "We have agreed that we will discuss humanitarian issues." Vietnam and the United States have no diplomatic ties.

Gen. Vessey, former chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, was met at Hanoi's Noi Bai Airport by Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and whisked into the capital in a Soviet-made limousine. [passage omitted]

Mr. Nguyen Dy Nien told journalists Vietnam had suffered more than the Americans in the war. He cited orphans, amputees, victims of chemical weapons, Vietnam's own MIA's -- and stressed that Hanoi wanted to discuss all these issues with the United States.

The United States lost 47,253 soldiers, sailors and airmen in combat in Indochina.

Mr. Nguyen Dy Nien said there was no longer any question of discussing "reparations of war." [passage omitted]

A Vietnamese official, who requested anonymity, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE a trade-off was never Hanoi's intention. He said U.S. and Vietnamese humanitarian issues would be discussed at the same level. [passage omitted]

Meets With Foreign Minister

BKO11343 Hong Kong AFP in English 1333 GMT 1 Aug 87

[By Gilles Campion]

[Excerpts] Hanoi, Aug 1 (AFP) -- Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said here Saturday that if the United States wanted to open a liaison office in Hanoi, Vietnam would ask to open a liaison office in Washington.

Mr. Thach was speaking to reporters before the start of talks with U.S. presidential envoy general John Vessey, who arrived in the Vietnamese capital Saturday to try to find a solution to the issue of U.S. servicemen missing in action (MIA) during the Vietnam War.

The talks lasted scarcely 45 minutes instead of the scheduled two hours.

The two countries do not have diplomatic relations but several U.S. congressmen have advised U.S. President Ronald Reagan to open a "technical office" in Hanoi to deal specifically with the MIA problem.

Mr. Thach told reporters he had no wish to open such an office in Washington. "But if they (the Americans) have such a desire, I will announce my desire to open an identical office in Washington," Mr. Thach said.

"Now it is two-way traffic and no longer one-way traffic," the Vietnamese foreign minister said, referring to the reciprocal relations Hanoi has decided to maintain with the United States. [passage omitted]

Mr. Thach, who is also deputy prime minister, said he had no illusions about new U.S. propositions to solve the MIA issue. Asked about new Vietnamese initiatives, he replied: "I have many cards in my pocket."

He confirmed that he would bring up humanitarian issues particularly worrying Vietnam in his talks with Gen. Vessey.

Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien has cited orphans, amputees, and alleged victims of chemical weapons as areas of concern. But he stressed that Hanoi was now talking of humanitarian issues, not reparations of war. [passage omitted]

'Progress' Make in Talks

BKO20800 Hong Kong AFP in English 0747 GMT 2 Aug 87

[By Gilles Campion]

[Excerpts] Hanoi, Aug 2 (AFP) -- Vietnamese and U.S. officials have made progress in their talks to solve the issue of U.S. servicemen missing in action (MIA) during the Vietnam war but have not reached any agreement, the leaders of the two sides said Sunday.

"We are having good talks, we are working hard, we are making progress, but we have more work to do," U.S. Presidential Envoy General John Vessey told reporters after his second meeting with the Vietnamese Sunday.

Gen Vessey said he was "satisfied with the progress we are making."

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said "some progress" had been made during the discussions. "Up to now, there is a better understanding between the two parties," he added. [passage omitted]

A press conference scheduled for Sunday was postponed to Monday, confirming that the two parties had yet to reach an agreement.

A Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesman, Trinh Xuan Lang, said a "working session" would be held later Sunday with "expert groups" from both sides.

The Vietnamese side would be led by Nghiem Xuan Bai, director of the Foreign Ministry's North America Department, Mr Lang said. He did not know who would lead the U.S. side.

Mr Lang said the meeting would concentrate on "technical details." He did not elaborate.

Gen Vessey and Mr Thach met without an interpreter for 55 minutes on Sunday before rejoining their teams. [passage omitted]

Joint Statement Issued

BK031028 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Text] Under the agreement reached between the Governments of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the United States of America, General John Vessey, special envoy of the U.S. President, arrived in Hanoi on 1 August 1987.

The special envoy of the U.S. President and those accompanying him had working sessions with Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

The special envoy conveyed a letter from U.S. President Ronald Reagan to the president of the State Council, Vo Chi Cong.

At the end of the talks on 3 August 1987, the two sides issued the following joint statement:

U.S. and Vietnamese delegations have held detailed, candid and constructive talks on humanitarian issues. Both sides agreed that such issues should not be linked to broader political questions such as normalization or to economic aid.

Specific measures were agreed upon to accelerate progress toward accounting for Americans missing in Vietnam and to address certain humanitarian concerns of Vietnam.

In particular, meetings of experts on these issues will take place in the near future, one to discuss next steps to resolve the POW-MIA issues and one to discuss urgent Vietnamese humanitarian concerns.

The two sides have undertaken to work methodically and seriously on these humanitarian issues.

General John Vessey and his party left Vietnam on 3 August.

AFP Reports on Statement

BK030918 Hong Kong AFP in English 0909 GMT 3 Aug 87

[By Gilles Campion]

[Text] Hanoi, Aug 3 (AFP) -- U.S. and Vietnamese officials agreed here Monday to resume negotiations on U.S. servicemen listed as missing in action (MIA) in Vietnam in exchange for talks on Hanoi's "urgent humanitarian concerns," a statement released by the two sides said.

The joint statement was read to reporters following three days of talks in the Vietnamese capital between U.S. Presidential Envoy General John Vessey and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

The communique said that two "meetings of experts" on the MIA issue and "urgent Vietnamese humanitarian concerns" would be held in the near future.

"U.S. and Vietnamese officials have held detailed, candid and constructive talks on humanitarian issues," the statement said.

"Both sides agreed that such issues should not be linked to broader political questions such as normalization (of relations) or to economic aid.

"Specific measures were agreed upon to accelerate progress towards accounting for Americans missing in Vietnam and to address certain humanitarian concerns of Vietnam.

"In particular, meetings of experts on these issues will take place in the near future: one to discuss next steps to resolve the POW-MIA issues and one to discuss urgent Vietnamese humanitarian concerns.

"The two sides have undertaken to work methodically and seriously in these humanitarian issues," the statement read by the interpreter of Mr Thach in the presence of Gen Vessey concluded.

Gen Vessey, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Mr Thach, who is also a deputy premier, both refused to answer questions from reporters.

A Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesman disclosed meanwhile that Gen Vessey, the most senior U.S. official to visit Vietnam in 10 years, delivered a message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan to Vietnamese President Vo Chi Cong. The spokesman added that Hanoi would respond to the letter.

Observers here said Gen Vessey appeared to have accomplished his mission of reopening talks on the 1,776 U.S. servicemen still unaccounted for in Vietnam.

Vietnam has returned the remains of 161 MIA's to the United States in recent years, but none since October when Hanoi insisted that Washington commit itself to resolving the MIA issue within two years.

Vietnam has repeatedly rejected charges that it is still holding U.S. prisoners more than a decade after the war ended.

Observers said Vietnam also appeared to have gained from the latest meeting with the U.S. acceptance to discuss Vietnam's "urgent humanitarian questions."

Vietnamese officials have cited orphans, amputees and the victims of chemical defoliants used by U.S. forces as topics for discussion.

Although the joint statement appeared to rule out any direct U.S. aid to Vietnam, a well-informed western diplomat said the United States could provide assistance to Hanoi through non-governmental channels.

The United States, which does not recognize the Hanoi government, opposes providing Vietnam with aid or engaging in bilateral economic cooperation as along as Hanoi mantains an estimated 140,000 troops in Cambodia.

Gen Vessey the most senior U.S. official to visit Vietnam since a 1977 trip by Leonard Woodcock, special envoy of then-President Jimmy Carter.

The U.S. delegation was scheduled to leave Hanoi later Monday for Bangkok aboard a U.S. Government Boeing 707.

Gen Vessey was accompanied by Richard Childress, the National Security Council's director for Asian affairs, David Lambertson, deputy assistant secretary of state for Asia and the Pacific, and Ann Mills Griffiths, executive director of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia.

PHAM HUNG INTERVIEWED ON CAMBODIAN ISSUE

BK310959 Delhi THE PATRIOT in English 16 Jul 87 p 7

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, July 15 (PTI) -- Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Hung wants India to be one of the guarantors of an international agreement on Kampuchea.

"For her position and role, India is undoubtedly able to make a valuable contribution to the settlement of the whole Kampuchean Issue...India should be one of the guarantors for an international agreement on Kampuchea", 74-year-old Hung told PTI in an interview.

The Vietnamese leader who answered questions on bilateral and regional issues, spoke feelingly about his visit to India along with late President Ho Chi Minh and recalled how he climbed the Minra at Taj Mahal.

Mr Hung said that being a large peace-loving country is Asia, India occupied a very important position in the three Indo-Chinese countries' struggle for peace. India contributed considerable to implementation of the 1954 General Accord on Indochina and the 1961-1962 Geneva accord on Laos. It also did its share in ending the "war of aggrression" against Vietnam.

"India asserted its role by recognising the People's Republic of Kampuchea and is intensifying relations in all fields with the legal Government of Kampuchea", the Vietnamese leader said.

Mr Hung said a political solution to Kampuchea, if any, should pay heed to the position of every party concerned. "Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam require the elimination of the genocidal Pol Potists. The other side rejects the Pol Potists' elimination. This is where the main stumbling block lies", he said.

The Vietnamese leader said that for several decades, without interruption and through huge sacrifices, the Vietnamese people fought against aggression by French colonialism and US imperialism to retrieve national independence and liberty.

When "the Pol Potists and other reactionary forces" committed aggression on the southwestern and northern border areas, the Vietnamese people had again to take up arms to safeguard their motherland's territorial integrity. "This is the right of self-defence vested in all nation", Mr Pham Hung said.

He added that the Vietnamese troops also joined hands with the people and armed forces of Kampuchea in their combat against the genocidal Pol Potists at the request of the Kampuchean people, he said.

The Pol Potists had committed an abominable crime -- genocide against the Kampuchean people as was known all over the world. But, over the last few years, the dreadful nightmare had given way to a wonderful resurrection: the People's Republic of Kampuchea, with President Heng Samrin at its head, was gaining strength in all fields, Mr Hung said.

"With the accord of the Kampuchean Government, we have been carrying out partial troop withdrawals for several years and are to complete the poll out by 1990", he said.

Answering questions in Indo-Vietnamese bilateral relations, Mr Hung said bilateral cooperation at state level or between counter parts from various sectors and professions was expanding in all areas, be it in politics, economy, science and technology or culture.

The visit to India of late secretary general of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Le Duan, and the visit to Vietnam of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi signified a steady development in cooperation.

He said that potential was still available in the two countries for enhancing, in the framework of the Non-Aligned Movement, the relations of friendship and cooperation in all fields, especially in economy and science and technology.

Asked to comment on the challenging tasks on hand, the Vietnamese leader said the country's dual strategic task was construction and defence of the motherland.

Mr Hung said that after enduring for over 30 consecutive years the ravages of a war of aggression, the Vietnamese people eagerly aspired to "a peaceful juncture".

"The supreme task for us in the coming years is to stabilise the situation in every aspect and get ready for industrialisation to start at the next stage", he said.

"To help make this feasible, we are right now conducting institutional reforms geared to eradicating the bureaucratic and subsidy-based management system and replacing it with an economic-account-based one so to gather all energy for executing the three-fold major programme (production of food and foodstuff, consumer goods and export items)".

Many difficulties still lay ahead. "But our people will definitely overcome all obstacles and achieve such targets as have been fixed", he affirmed.

NGUYEN VAN LINH ON 'NEW SOVIET PEACE INITIATIVE'

BK311536 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Report on a 28 July 1987 interview granted to the Soviet Central Television Station by CPV Central Committee General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh in connection with CPSU General Secretary Gorbachev's recent statement to Indonesian paper MERDEKA — read by announcer]

[Text] Comrade Nguyen Van Linh said: The whole world has just welcomed a new, very important Soviet peace initiative.

In an interview granted to Indonesian paper MERDEKA, Comrade Gorbachev stated that the Soviet Union is ready to eliminate all its medium-range missiles from its Asian territory on the condition that the United States will do likewise. All tactical missiles there will also be removed.

The Soviet Union's double zero proposal for eliminating all missiles, both medium-range and tactical missiles, not only from Europe but also from Asia and other regions, is a creative and bold decision. It reflects the Soviet Union's determination to carry out its program to eliminate completely all nuclear weapons by the end of this century as already outlined by Comrade Gorbachev in his 15 January 1986 statement. It is also a positive step aimed at carrying out the Asia-Pacific peace proposal presented by Comrade Gorbachev in Vladivostok precisely 1 year ago, -- July 1986.

The new Soviet peace initiative is an event of historic importance as it reflects the high sense of responsibility of the Soviet Union and its untiring struggle for peace and for the existence of men on this planet.

This is a prompt response to the aspirations for peace of the people from various countries in Asia and the Pacific, the place where U.S. imperialism is trying to accelerate the arms race and to set up many depots for mass-killing weapons, thus posing a serious threat to the security of this large and populated region.

This is also a measure that can bring about a prospect for eliminating completely this dangerous kind of weapons which have been deployed in a relatively large area.

The new statement by Comrade Gorbachev is creating a large echo in Asia and the world and is being supported by the whole mankind.

The Communist Party and people and Vietnam highly value and heartily support this new Soviet initiative and demand that the United States positively respond to this extremely constructive peace proposal.

FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY DIRECTIVE ON LEGAL WORK

BKO10955 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] The Foreign Trade Ministry recently issued a directive on strengthening legal bodies and legal work at those units dealing in import-export, marketable products, and support services.

In addition to strengthening legal bodies, the Foreign Trade Ministry clearly specifies the duties and rights of these legal bodies, noting that they are responsible for compiling and studying in a systematic way all the laws on foreign trade, and international law and trade practice affecting the trade operations of these units; for contributing their opinions on draft foreign trade contracts and other related documents prepared by the directors of their parent units; for promptly reporting to the directors of their parent units on violations or negligence in enforcing the law; for suggesting measures to ensure and enhance socialist legislation within their units; for acting as adviser to the directors of their parent units on those disputes or complaints connected with the implementation of foreign trade contracts and on legal matters arising from production and the business of their units.

REPORT ON PERSECUTION CASE IN HO CHI MINH CITY

BK011000 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Following self-criticism and criticism in accordance with Directive No 79 of the party Central Committee Secretariat, many cadres and party members in Phu Nhuan Precinct of Ho Chi Minh City have come to the VNA detachment and the city press offices to report that in this activity drive many nonparty member cadres in the offices of the precinct People's Committee have frankly and sincerely expressed their views to the party committee echelon and the people's committee on the malpractices of some economic units in the precinct, such as the Trung Tam grain supply shop, the exports supply company, the general trade company, and so forth. Proceeding from such a move, they have mentioned such phenomena related to the key leaders of the precinct as factionalism and disunity which has prevailed for many years now.

Far from giving scrupulous consideration to these constructive views to answer the people, just a few days later the leading cadres involved took retaliatory measures against those who had criticized them. Typical of this is the persecution of Comrade (Do Xoay), deputy chief of the Judiciary Office. Capitalizing on some of his mistakes in the performance of his duty which were investigated and confirmed as unjustified later by responsible agencies, the acting chairman of the precinct people's committee issued a decision to discontinue his service during the investigation, and although the investigation had not been carried out thoroughly, the acting chairman again issued a decision to remove him from his position and force him to resign. A few days later, the chief of the precinct people's control body decided to file a suit and issued an order to temporarily confine (Do Xoay) on charges of slander. Some other cadres have also been transferred by the precinct people's committee or have been threatened by higher cadres in the precinct people's committee.

After the case had been reported by the press and some functional agencies of the Ho Chi Minh City party committee set up a steering committee in March to reorganize Phu Nhuan Precinct. After several months of urgent and scrupulous work to study records contact witnesses, and inspect and investigate, the Steering Committee has completed a report on the entire situation in Phu Nhuan Precinct. Acting on a petition of this committee, the Standing Committee of the city party committee has decided to replace some key leaders in the party and People's Committees of Phu Nhuan Precinct. In particular, the abovementioned case of retaliation has been confirmed as true by the Steering Committee saying that the key leaders of the precinct had acted out of unclean motives to raise and deal with the question at variance with Directive No 79. They were reported to have used their authority in an undemocratic manner and to have disregarded the collective mastery of cadres, workers, and civil servants.

Implementing a directive of the city party committee on the need to respond to the column "Things That Must Be Done Immediately," on the afternoon of 27 July, the Steering Committee publicized its conclusion on this case of persecution and suggested that Physical Precinct authorities sternly criticize those comrades who have persecuted the people and that they publicly take severe punitive actions against them in order to promptly stabilize the situation in and reorganize the precinct. The decision forcing (Do Xoay) to resign must be cancelled immediately and he must be released at once. At the same time, action must be taken to settle the benefits of (Do Xoay) during the period of his discontinued service.

In the process of continuously clarifying suspicious cases, it is necessary to keep intact the positions of those cadres who have contributed to party development and whom the precinct people's committee recently intended to transfer.

The general public urges the city party committee to promptly publish all the conclusions on Phu Nhuan Precinct, especially regarding the employment of cadres and the business in economic units, and that action be taken to promptly stabilize the situation in Phu Nhuan and develop this precinct according to its potentials.

SECURITY CADRES TRIED FOR UNJUST DETENTION

DK030543 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] The People's Court of Hau Giang Province recently held an open session to try Vi Thanh District public security personnel for having unjustly arrested, tortured, and detained nine innocent youths. The youths, suspected of involvement in three local major robberies, were jailed for nearly 2 years until the real culprits were nabbed. From early 1983 to August 1984, three major robberies took place in Vi Dong Village, Vi Thanh District. The family of Nguyen Van Tien in Hamlet No 5 was robbed of a sewing machine, a cassette tape recorder, and some money and gold. The family of Nguyen Van Cai in Hamlet No 4B lost a sewing machine, a cassette tape recorder, and 2.5 taels of gold. In Hamlet No 5, the robbers broke into the home of Nguyen Van Ba, overpowered all members of his family, raped his wife, and took away some valuables.

Following these robberies, while the culprits were still at large, the public security office of Vi Thanh District arrested Nguyen Van San, a blacklisted person who had been detained several times by the public security forces. District public security cadre Trinh Bach Chien interrogated and roughed up San, forcing him to admit having taken part in the robberies. Chien then turned San over to Huong, head of the investigation unit, for further interrogation. Afraid of more beatings, San admitted that he and five of his acquaintances -- Hung, Dong, Hieu, Chi and Tan -- had committed the three robberies. On the basis of San's statement, the investigative cadres asked for advice from the district public security leadership and arrested the five young men. Four district public security agents -- Chien, Sac, Hai and An -- took turns at interrogating the suspects, using brutal acts to extract their testimonies, and locking them up in a cellar for several days and nights to force them to admit to participating in the robberies.

More seriously still, Chien, Hai, Sac and An let the detainees listen to all the tape recordings of San's statements and used tricks an intimidation to force Dong, Tan and Chi to testify according to their instructions. For instance, the detainees had to name Song, San, Than, and Buu as their accomplices in the robberies, regardless of the fact that these young men were village or hamlet public security agents, heads of production units, and soldiers visiting their families, or were party and youth union members, or state employees who knew absolutely nothing of the holdups.

More than 1 year later, while the nine youths were still in detention, the real culprit, Nguyen Van Nhan, was caught red-handed along with 20 of his accomplices during another robbery.

Considering the seriousness of the crimes perpetrated by Chien, Hai, Sac and An and the grave political consequences of the case, the People's Court of Hau Giang Province sentenced Trinh Bach Chien to 4 years imprisonment, Nguyen Tri Hai and Nguyen Van Sac 3 years imprisonment, and Tran Van An 18 months imprisonment. Concerning the leadership of Vi Thanh District's public security office, which advocated detaining people without evidence, worked in a bureaucratic fashion, and failed to exercise supervision over the case, leading to very grave consequences, it had to review its own performance before the entire public security service, and each cadre concerned had to submit himself to proper disciplinary action.

COOK ISLANDS

INTERVIEW WITH NEW COOK ISLAND LEADER ROBATI

BKO21336 Hong Kong AFP in English 1109 GMT 2 Aug 87

[By Ian Pedley]

[Excerpts] Rarotonga, Aug 1 (AFP) -- The South Pacific's newest leader said Saturday he hoped to become the region's first head of government to visit the controversial French nuclear test site at Mururoa Atoll. Cook Islands Prime Minister Pupuke Robati said he expected to accept an invitation to visit Muroroa from French Minister of State for the South Pacific Gaston Flosse.

"There is nothing like seeing for yourself," Mr Robati said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE at his home here overlooking the Pacific Ocean. "That's the reason I want to see what they (the French) have there."

Tonga's King Tupou IV visited the test site July 15 with Le Tagoloa Pita, Western Samoa's minister of commerce and foreign affairs, at the invitation of Mr Flosse. Similar invitations have been turned down by other Pacific leaders, including Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke and New Zealand's David Lange.

Dr Robati, who replaced the long-serving Sir Thomas Davis after a government revolt on Tuesday, said he was not in favour of the French tests, which have been unanimously condemned by all South Pacific Forum nations. In September 1985, French President Francois Mitterrand sent invitations to all 14 members of the South Pacific Forum to visit the test site. They (the French) keep on saying it's quite safe," Dr Robati said. "I'd like to go and see for myself. I don't see any immediate danger there but there is this fear our people have of what the tests may do to the ocean." Dr Robati said he also expected to accept an invitation from Mr Flosse to visit him in Papeete before the end of the month to consolidate the traditional close ties between the Cook Islands and French Polynesia.

Before that he hoped to meet Mr Lange in New Zealand for what is widely seen as a fence-mending exercise. Political analysts said Sir Thomas had strained relations between the two countries with his widely-publicised criticism of the Lange government's anti-nuclear policy which has led to New Zealand's exclusion from the ANZUS defence pact, linking New Zealand with Australia and the United States.

New Zealand is also responsible for the defence of the Cook Islands. Dr Robati said he wanted to have a good working relationship with Mr Lange as soon as possible. "I think things will be better with New Zealand," he said. The premier said he had no particular issues to raise with Mr Lange but wanted to discuss various New Zealand-funded aid projects in the Cook Islands. Dr Robati said he could not go to Wellington until Parliament had passed his new budget here while Mr Lange had other pressing problems with New Zealand elections only a fortnight away.

The new Cook Islands leader said he did not plan to become as heavily involved in international affairs as his predecessor but would leave that role to Foreign Minister Norman George. Mr George, who proposed the parliamentary no-confidence motion which brought Sir Thomas down, has accused the former prime minister of being impossible to work with.

Sir Thomas had been abusive, constantly threatening his ministers who questioned the autocratic decision he made without consulting the cabinet, Mr George said in interviews early this week. Sir Thomas had embarrassed the country by his antagonistic attitude to Mr Lange, he added. Dr Robati said he planned to govern by caucus consensus and did not expect his leadership to cause any ripples in the region.

On regional matters, Dr Robati said he would "work along with what the Forum decides." He said he had no particular axe to grind on the New Caledonian independence issue and hoped to maintain good ties with the French Government, which had poured aid into the Cook Islands after a cyclone devastated the main island of Rarotonga early this year. [passage omitted]

Many Cook Islanders, including Dr Robati, have blood relatives in French Polynesia while migration has given New Zealand a bigger population of Cook Islanders than the 18,000 who still live here. Two of Dr Robati's 12 children live in New Zealand, one like him a medical doctor. One of 13 children himself, the 62-year-old Dr Robati was born on the northern island of Rakahanga where his father was a London missionary society pastor and schoolteacher for the 300 islanders.

Dr Robati said he goes back each year to fish and hopes to spend more time there when he retires. But he said he would first seek a full five-year term as prime minister at the next elections, due in 18 months.

TONGA

MARCOS GIVEN TONGAN PASSPORT, BUT NO RESIDENCE

BKO20730 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] King Taufa'ahau Tupou of Tonga says the deposed Philippine president, Mr Marcos, has been given a Tongan passport. In an interview with a government-run newspaper, THE TONGAN CHRONICLE, the king said Mr Marcos had asked to emigrate to Tonga and for a Tongan diplomatic passport. He said the Tongan Government had decided to give the former Philippine leader an ordinary Tongan passport on humanitarian grounds.

The king said this was to allow Mr Marcos to travel because his Philippine passport had been confiscated. He also reiterated that Mr Marcos had never discussed with the Tongan Government the possibility of launching a counterrevolution from a base in Tonga.

Mr Marcos and his wife Imelda had been living in exile in Hawaii since he was deposed in February last year.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS says the king's son, Crown Prince Tupouto'a, who is the foreign affairs minister, earlier told Parliament it had been decided not to give Mr. Marcos Tongan residence because the Philippines might consider this an unfriendly act.

END OF FICHE DATE FILMED 4. Aug. 1987

